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MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL

OBSERVATIONS,

as an APPENDIX to a former

PUBLICATION.

By

BENJAMIN GOOCH

SURGEON.

Homines ad Deos nulla re propiùs accedunt,
quàm salutem hominibus dando. CICERO.

LONDON,
Printed for G. ROBINSON,
in Pater Noster Row, and
R. BEATNIFFE in NORWICH.

1778.

TO THE

GOVERNORS

OF THE

NORFOLK and NORWICH

HOSPITAL.

GENTLEMEN,

I Take the liberty of addreſſing theſe miſcellaneous papers to you, as a teſtimony of the grateful ſenſe I entertain of the honor which the Society unanimouſly conferred upon me, in my abſence and without my deſire, at a very full General Board, on October the 9th, 1771, by appointing me Conſulting-Surgeon purſuant to the Rules and Orders eſtabliſhed for the Government of the Hoſpital.

From the principle which originally actuated me, in my inferior ſtation, to promote this Eſtabliſhment to the utmoſt of my power, it affords me a pleaſure

a ſuperior

ſuperior to every other temporal conſi-
ration to obſerve how it proſpers in your
hands; and its thriving is not to be
doubted, as the nature of the Inſtitution
extends, in ſo ſignal a manner, to the
relief and benefit of the miſerable in
their ſeveral diſtreſſes.

This very excellent Charity will cer-
tainly reward the benevolent intentions
of its generous Supporters, and give the
ſincereſt ſatisfaction to all who zealouſly
exert themſelves in the good work.

I am with the greateſt regard,

Gentlemen,

Your moſt obliged

and obedient Servant

B. GOOCH.

A ſhort

A ſhort Account of the Riſe and Progreſs of the NORFOLK *and* NORWICH HOSPITAL, *&c.*

THE late Lord Biſhop of Norwich* formed a plan for this purpoſe in the year, 1759; but then an unexpected incident prevented its being carried into execution, and it lay dormant till it was lately revived, and vigorouſly proſecuted, by perſons of his beneficent diſpoſition, who were encouraged to expect that ſucceſs would attend the revival of it, from the concern ſhewn, by people of all ranks,

* At his Lordſhip's deſire I viſited all the great Hoſpitals in London with the utmoſt attention, and procured by the very friendly and obliging behaviour and aſſiſtance of the Surgeons there and in other places, every neceſſary intelligence and information I poſſibly could to communicate to him on this occaſion.—See the Preface to my Caſes and Remarks in Surgery, Edit. II.

at the former diſappointment, ardently wiſhing to ſee an eſtabliſhment of ſuch public utility brought to perfection; and after ſome preparatory ſteps a meeting was held upon this occaſion, on Auguſt the 1ſt, 1770, which proved ſo auſpicious as to encourage the Society to lay the foundation of the Building in February, 1771, the ſituation of which is pleaſant, and in the beſt air, at a proper diſtance from the City.

Through the activity and attention of the Managers, the Building was carried on ſo ſpeedily, that it was fit for the attendance of the Phyſicians and Surgeons to aſſiſt Out-Patients, on July the 11th, 1772, and by November the 7th of the ſame year proviſion was made for the reception of ſome In-Patients.

I believe it may alſo be truly ſaid to the honor of this County and City, that ſuch

ſuch liberality and quick progreſs in effecting this deſign have not been exceeded, if equalled, in any other place in this Kingdom, at a diſtance from the Metropolis; and particular regard has been paid to a point of the utmoſt conſequence, which is, having the Wards lofty and airy. †

† The Wards are of different ſizes and all 15 feet high; they are kept very neat and clean, not crowded with beds, and well ventilated by having the convenience of letting down the upper parts of the ſaſhes occaſionally in the Wards and in the Galleries communicating with them; which is done every day for a due time, when the weather will admit of it: and it is obſerved by all people who enter theſe Wards that there is not the leaſt offenſiveneſs; particular care having alſo been taken in reſpect to the adjacent Neceſſaries, which has effectually obviated any complaint on that account.

In a converſation relative to Hoſpitals, which I formerly had with my worthy Friend Doctor Hunter, Conſulting-Phyſician to the Brownlow-Street-Hoſpital, he told me there were two Wards of equal length and breadth, one directly over the other, but the upper ſome feet lower than the other, in which the ſame number of patients

Very judicious regulations have likewiſe been eſtabliſhed by the Society, not only in ſelecting the ableſt and moſt experienced principal Surgeons, but aſſiſtant Surgeons alſo regularly educated; as it is an object of the greateſt concernment to have ſuch ſubſtitutes to ſupply the place of the principals, when indiſpenſable engagements prevent their attendance.

By theſe precautions and obſervances the patients will of courſe be properly attended, and ſubſcriptions not diſcouraged through ſuggeſtions of any neglect: and by thus providing the Hoſpital with Surgeons in its infant ſtate, there is the greateſt probability of perpetuating a ſucceſſion,

patients were lodged in ſimilar circumſtances; and that it was obſerved more died in the upper than in the lower. This difference of ſucceſs could not at firſt be accounted for, but upon farther conſideration, it was apprehended it might ariſe from the greater impurity of the air they breathed, conſequently the number of patients was leſſened in the upper Ward, and then they did as well in that as in other.

ſucceſſion, in the moſt unexceptionable manner, with the judgment and authority of the Governors, to ſupport the credit and reputation of it when it arrives at a ſtate of maturity.

Hitherto the ſucceſs of the practice here has anſwered every expectation, by the aſſiduity of the judicious Gentlemen, who engaged to attend *gratis* on this meritorious occaſion: and particular care is taken to oblige the nurſes to perform their duty diligently, upon which much depends.

By the Records of the Wincheſter-Hoſpital, (which was the firſt that was founded upon voluntary contribution out of London in the year 1736, through the zeal and activity of Doctor Alured Clarke) it appears, that ſoon after its eſtabliſhment, out of 872 patients admitted, there were no more then 59 whoſe caſes, in the opinion of the Phyſicians and Surgeons, would not have allowed of removal a great many miles, without doing

them any injury: Hence, ſhould it be apprehended by perſons charitably inclined, who dwell in the extreme parts of the county, that their ſubſcriptions could not be well and ſatisfactorily anſwered, on account of the remote diſtance, there is good reaſon to hope this conſideration ſhould have weight ſufficient to remove ſuch prepoſſeſſion effectually, and determine them to ſubſcribe; more eſpecially as there are now eaſy and ſafe conveyances coming weekly from every part of the County to Norwich, where the Hoſpital is placed: and as a farther argument to remove this objection, proviſion is expreſsly made, by the Rules and Orders of the Hoſpital, that the recommendations of thoſe at the greateſt diſtance ſhall have the preference, in caſes of equal exigence. ‡

The

‡ Inſtitutions of this nature are evidently worthy the particular attention and conſideration of pariſhes, as undoubtedly they would find their account, and be amply recompenſed in ſubſcribing to the ſupport of them out of their public ſtock; for it may reaſonably be ſuppoſed, that

The ſame worthy Gentleman who was inſtrumental in founding the Hoſpital at Wincheſter, when he became Dean of Exeter, exerted himſelf with the like zeal and alacrity in promoting ſuch an eſtabliſhment there, and his exertion was attended with the ſame ſucceſs. His amiable character and benevolent diſpoſition, I was made acquainted with in his life time, by a Gentleman of equal merit and virtue, his intimate and my very good Friend, at whoſe houſe I once met him: and our worthy Dean, the Reverend Doctor Lloyd, has not ſhewn leſs zeal on this occaſion.

According to the Tranſactions of the Devon and Exeter-Hoſpital, ſeveral very ſenſible and inquiſitive men, who turned

that there is ſcarce any one pariſh, tho' ever ſo ſmall, but will have in the courſe of a year a pauper ſo afflicted, as to become a proper object of an hoſpital proviſion, in a caſe where nurſing only with other incidental charges, will amount to more than a ſubſcription to procure every thing neceſſary to his cure in the moſt unexceptionable and beſt manner.

turned their thoughts with particular attention to this ſubject, were of opinion, that half the poor of this Kingdom die of diſeaſes which might be cured, were timely and proper aſſiſtance given them.

Were it neceſſary this might be offered as a cogent argument and incentive to encourage and promote Inſtitutions of this nature: for in what place are they ſo likely to find ſuch advantages to recover their health, as in an Hoſpital well governed and regulated, where all due care is taken to have the benefit of ſuitable diet, pure air, cleanlineſs and every other requiſite, without having the wards crouded with patients? This laſt article is materially neceſſary to be obſerved, the neglect of which in ſome Hoſpitals, both at home and abroad, has been productive of deleterious effects, as muſt inevitably be the conſequence of breathing in an impure atmoſphere, ſo contaminated with the effluvia of morbid bodies; tending alſo to the diſcredit of the Inſtitution and the Gentlemen appointed to take care of the

ſick

ſick and lame. * And thoſe who are improper ſubjects for admiſſion into this Aſylum may have the beſt advice and medicines without expence, to keep them from falling into the hands of bold quacks and ignorant pretenders.

In this reſpect the Empreſs of Ruſſia has taken particular care, as I have been informed by the late Doctor Mounſey's letters, who was long Phyſician to her Imperial Majeſty and in high eſteem.

PREFACE.

* Mr. Aikin's judicious and well written Diſſertation on Hoſpitals demands attentive reading and conſideration, by all concerned in the government and management of Hoſpitals, that they may effectually anſwer the end and deſign propoſed.

From the inevitable diſtreſſes of the poor, owing to a combination of cauſes, Inſtitutions of this nature become more and more neceſſary.

PREFACE.

THESE miſcellaneous papers correſpond with my original deſign of being as uſeful as I can to my young Brethren, and may be conſidered as a ſupplement to my former publication.

An exhortation to young Surgeons.

This motive induces me without any other apology, to begin with earneſtly propoſing to the conſideration of ſuch Gentlemen who are deſtined to a ſituation, which requires their exerciſing both branches of the Medical Art, not only to make obſervations and remarks accurately upon all extraordinary caſes occurring in their practice; but alſo to take minutes of memorable Epidemic Diſeaſes, which the different ſeaſons produce, with

the

the ſtate of the weather at thoſe times, and the moſt ſucceſsful methods of cure.†

We have examples of illuſtrious men in all ages and countries from the time of Hippocrates;

† It is not my deſign to engage in any Hypotheſis, or advance ſpeculative notions, nor inquire nicely into the remote or proximate cauſes of the diſeaſes mentioned in the following ſheets; which kind of procedure has involved and bewildered many, and led them into inextricable mazes; but to relate matters of fact truly and faithfully, and as conciſely as poſſible not to be obſcure; leaving abſtruſe matters to more curious inveſtigators

Qui ſpeculantur non medentur.

Our great Countryman Wiſeman, who was Serjeant-Surgeon to King Charles the Second, tells us in his Epiſtle Dedicatory to his excellent chirurgical Works, that he employed his time when confined with illneſs in writing them: I have ſo far followed his example, but I do not think that my productions can prove of ſuch public utility and advantage; however, I have done my beſt under the like predicament, when lately confined ſome months with a dangerous diſeaſe.

Qui non eſt hodie, cras minus aptus erit.

Hippocrates; and in this nation Sydenham and Huxham have moſt diſtinguiſhed themſelves to excite young Gentlemen of the Faculty to theſe obſervances, which, with an attentive reading the beſt practical Books, will prove the moſt effectual method of aſſiſting them in forming their judgments to direct their practice upon various important occaſions, for the greater ſafety of their patients, as well as for the advancement and ſupport of their own reputation, which muſt appear objects of the higheſt concernment and intereſting nature that can be offered to their conſideration. *

I have

* Some eminent and learned Phyſicians of the paſt and preſent age have written upon endemic or popular diſeaſes, in particular Countries where their practice gave them opportunities of making obſervations; as Proſper Alpinus in Egypt:——Gulielmus Piſo in the Weſt-Indies:—Jacobus Bontius in the Eaſt-Indies:—Sir Hans Sloane in Jamaica:—Towne at Barbadoes:—Cleghorn at Minorca:—Grainger at Batavia.——Their writings are in great eſteem, and many of their remarks applicable to diſeaſes which frequently occur in this Iſland. To theſe may very deſervedly be added Dr. O'Connell's Obſervationes Medicinales, &c. which he dedicated to Doctor Mead. He was many years a practitioner of great repute at Cork in Ireland.

I have reflected with regret, upon not having obſerved and regularly purſued, what I now ſtrongly recommend to be early attended to by others: and I did not want opportunities for ſuch purpoſes, in a country ſituation, with a large circle of buſineſs, where I was obliged to act in the capacity of a Phyſician as well as a Surgeon more than 30 years, to which I cloſely applied myſelf.

Upon publiſhing my Opuſculum a few years ago, I received a letter from Sir John Pringle, Phyſician to the Queen and Preſident of the Royal Society, † encouraging

† Sprat's Hiſtory of our illuſtrious Royal Society may be truly ſaid to contain the *utile dulci*, and will certainly recompenſe the inquiſitive Reader's peruſal with pleaſure and profit. Among other obſervable things, there is a curious account of the ancient manner of embalming dead bodies in the Iſland of Teneriffe, communicated by a Phyſician who reſided and practiſed there many years.

Soon after the Eſtabliſhment of this Society, the example was followed at Paris by inſtituting the Acad. Roy. des Sciences: and towards the concluſion of the ſame century, another Inſtitution of the like nature, to promote knowledge in Arts and Sciences was founded at Leipſic,

encouraging me to purſue the ſame plan: and this worthy Gentleman ſtill honouring me with his friendſhip and correſpondence, I thought myſelf under an indiſpenſable obligation, after having digeſted the following papers, to communicate the heads of them to him; requeſting his candid opinion in reſpect to the publication of them. In conſequence of this requeſt he favoured me with a very friendly anſwer and uſeful remarks, earneſtly encouraging me to publiſh them, giving me leave to make uſe of his name on this occaſion; and by his approbation they are brought to light.

Leipſic, the publications of which are intitled *Acta Eruditorum*.—Another Society has been eſtabliſhed at the Univerſity of Edinburgh, as in many other parts of Europe, for proſecuting Natural Philoſophy, &c. the firſt Volume of which was publiſhed in 1758, intitled *Eſſays and Obſervations phyſical and literary*, after the Medical Society there had publiſhed ſix Volumes of *Medical Eſſays* with univerſal approbation.

Should theſe hints and communications anſwer my original deſign, I ſhall be amply rewarded; remembering Lucan's precept, which ſhould never be forgotten.

Nec ſibi ſed toti genitum ſe credere mundo.

Shottiſham,

Auguſt the 1ſt, 1773.

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MEDICAL

OBSERVATIONS.

A brief account of the most considerable EPIDEMICS *which prevailed in the year* 1739-40, 41 *and* 42, *with some observations and remarks.*

IN the latter part of the summer, and in the autumnal season, of the year 1739, the weather was uncommonly warm, calm, and sultry, with a moist atmosphere even when it did not rain. This disposition of the air produced a fever of a putrid and malignant nature, of which many died: some had eruptions and others not; but the time of their appearance in the course of the disease, was very precarious and the crisis as uncertain. *

1739. Of a putrid & malignant fever.

A It

* Hippocrates in his Epidemics, his learned Commentator Galen, and writers of every age and climate, have observed, that such a state of the air has been productive of putrid and malignant fevers.—Read the celebrated Dr. Mead's Monita Medica Præcepta, § 9, upon epidemic fevers.

It is not my deſign to enter minutely into the nature and cauſe of this fever. Upon the invaſion of it the pulſe in general was found not much too quick, but unequal and often depreſſed. The blood was then florid, with a looſe coheſion, and in the progreſs of the diſeaſe, it frequently acquired a gelatinous appearance, with little or no ſeparation of the ſerum from the craſſamentum: and at its height the craſis of it was more diſſolved, ſometimes reſembling molaſſes in colour and conſiſtence. Then the eruptions put on a purple or livid hue, and ſpaſms with delirium commonly ſoon ſupervened and cloſed the ſcene in death.

Bleeding very prejudicial in this fever

It is a matter which requires great conſideration and judgment, in order to determine the propriety or impropriety of bleeding in fevers of this kind even at firſt, tho' ſome ſymptoms may then ſeem to indicate this evacuation.----As the greater part of thoſe who were attacked with this fever were people of the lower rank,

rank, many were indiſcriminately bled at every ſtage of the diſeaſe by ignorant perſons, who make a trade of bleeding in the country, without having any manner of medical knowledge to direct them in a ſtep of ſuch importance. By this unhappy practice a great many evidently ſuffered, but it gave me opportunities of examining the ſtate of the blood, as I was frequently called in, at different times of the diſeaſe; from whence I drew ſome uſeful inferences to regulate my practice.

Great care & caution in reſpect to purging were found neceſſary in this fever as well as bleeding.

From what I obſerved in the fever now under conſideration, almoſt as much care was neceſſary in reſpect to purging as to bleeding: alſo confining the patients, in cloſe rooms and hot in bed, endeavouring to force ſweats, by any means, was found very pernicious; but the frequent and cautious admiſſion of pure freſh air proved as beneficial, in the courſe of the diſeaſe, which often inſtantaneouſly comforted and ſenſibly revived

the patients, when almoſt expiring for want of it; proving more vivifying than any cordial medicine.

Method of cure

The moſt ſucceſsful method of treating this fever in general, from my own attentive obſervation, ſupported by that of judicious practitioners with whom I held correſpondence, was to clear the ſtomach at firſt with a vomit of Ipecacoanha, adding to it a grain or two of Tart. emetic. and when that did not operate alſo ſufficiently by ſtool, as it frequently did, then a mild purge was given to empty the primæ viæ.

In the progreſs of the diſeaſe, ſuch laxatives as operated with the leaſt commotion and diſturbance were neceſſary, to prevent the ill conſequences proceeding from too long retention of putrid fœces, &c. and to anſwer many ſalutary purpoſes, lenient clyſters were occaſionally given and frequently repeated with ſafety, at any time of the diſeaſe, when it

it seemed not advisable to give purging medicines. †

† Ol. Ricini, commonly called Castor Oil, seems a very important acquisition to the materia medica. I have experienced its good effects in my own valetudinary state attended with costiveness, &c. and think it an excellent remedy superior to all of that class.—See Dr. Fraser's account in the London Medical Observations and Inquiries, Vol. II. and Doctor Canvane's Dissertation concerning the use and virtues of this medicine.

The following mixture made with this oil is agreeable to the stomach, and I have found it well answer my own purpose, by taking two or three spoonfuls at bed-time occasionally in costiveness, even when I have had the piles attended with bleeding.

℞ *ol. Ricini* ℥*iss*
Vitel. Ovi parum
probè contritis in mortario marmoreo
add. sensim
Aq. menth. piper. simp.
Cinnam. simp. a. ℥*ij.*
Syrup. Rosar. solutiv. ℥*ss m.*

From what I have been sensible of myself in the use of this oil, it acts more by lubricating than stimulating the intestinal canal.

Saline draughts, with a ſmall quantity of pulv. contrayerv. comp. were advantageouſly given, and temporate cordials, as circumſtances required.

The diet moſt grateful and proper was of the liquid, farinaceons kind, with the addition of orange or lemon juice.

The moſt beneficial common drinks were aceſcent and ſubacid liquors; as cyder-whey, barley-water acidulated with vegetable or mineral acids, &c. and, for thoſe who could afford it, whey made with old hock or rheniſh wine was recommended. ‡

The Bark proved of ſingular ſervice in many inſtances, more eſpecially where the

‡ When Sir J. P——r's groom left his maſter at Conſtantinople, and declared himſelf a Doctor, a putrid or malignant fever raged there and in the neighbourhood. He indulged his patients with a pleaſant beverage like ſmall punch, more than commonly acid, of which he allowed them to drink liberally, which was the principal medicine he adminiſtered: and the ſucceſs of his practice gained him fame and wealth; of which I received an authentic account from his maſter.

the eruptions had an ill aſpect, joining with it Elix. Vitrioli: and now good red port-wine mixt with water, and made grateful to the palate and ſtomach with juice of Seville orange, ſugar, and a little ſpice, was found to be one of the beſt of cordials, taken moderately warm.

When nervous ſymptoms ſupervened they were treated with appropriate medicines, according as the nature and appearance of them directed: and in delirium with a feeble irregular pulſe, bliſtering, particularly of the head, ſometimes proved of ſingular ſervice.

The following is a moſt dreadful inſtance of the malignity of this fever, and none equal to it, in all reſpects, came under my notice during this epidemic ſeaſon.

Hiſtory of a ſingular caſe in this fever.

I was called to a poor lad about twelve years of age on the fifth day of the diſeaſe, when he had been freely bled and purged. His pulſe was very languid,

quick and irregular, and he was not perfect in his ſenſes; beſides petechial eruptions of an unfavourable complexion, he had flattiſh tumours of a purple colour, and of various ſizes over the bones of his arms and legs, in different parts of them, exquiſitely painful to the touch, and the depreſſions made with my fingers roſe very ſlowly; they had a puffy emphyſematous feeling, ſomething like what is obſerved upon the ſcalp from external injuries, where the pericranium is ſeparated from the cranium by extravaſated blood.

The day after my firſt viſit he was ſeized with ſpaſmodic affections and became more delirious, ſoon after a ſtupor came on, and next morning he expired in ſtrong convulſions, which was the ſeventh day of the diſeaſe.

Had there appeared to me the leaſt proſpect of his recovery, I ſhould have opened the tumours directly, but immediately after his death I obtained leave to do ſo, and found extravaſations of blood

in

in a ſtate of diſſolution, as I ſuſpected, in all of them between the inflamed perioſteum and the bones. ‡

This fever raged about two months, and totally ceaſed upon the coming on of the froſt at Chriſtmas; of which I am going to give a ſhort account.

‡ In the malignant ſmall-pox and fevers of that kind, where the natural cohefion of the blood is deſtroyed, the veſſels are apt to burſt, having loſt their elaſtic power neceſſary to carry on the circulation.

Whenever tumours happen in conſequence of ſuch diſeaſes with a fluid under the perioſteum, they require the moſt ſpeedy opening, in order to prevent the bones being affected, as well as other bad conſequences, likely to proceed from the abſorption of matter ſo virulent and corroſive. Sometimes in theſe caſes the bones are originally affected to a great degree, as happened to a young lady I was deſired to viſit ſome time ago, after the danger of the ſmall-pox itſelf appeared to be over. She had the left Os Malæ quite into the orbit of the eye, and down to the Alveoli, out of which the teeth were ready to drop, carious to ſuch a degree as might very truly be called a ſphacelus of the bone, and ſhe died ſoon after I ſaw her, tho' ſhe had been properly treated and taken the Bark liberally, under the direction of an experienced ſurgeon.

A caſe of an extraordinary Caries of the Os Malæ after the ſmall-pox.

A ſhort account of the hard winter in the Year 1739, *&c. which was the ſevereſt in the memory of man.*

1739 & 1740, The froſt began on Chriſtmas-Eve, uſhered in by the moſt piercing N. E. wind I ever felt. It proved very ſevere the following night, and next morning the hedges and trees were covered to an extraordinary thickneſs with hoarineſs like ſnow. It continued to an intenſe degree till the beginning of February, during which ſpace of time but a ſmall quantity of ſnow fell, compared with what had been obſerved in ſome temperate winters; and the air was generally ſerene. February the 2d, wind S. E. the froſt appeared as if it was about breaking up; but in two or three days it returned with almoſt its former violence, the wind N. E. On the 20th it began to thaw again. 22d it rained a little. 24th it froze moderately, and ſo continued

continued till the 27th, when it rained plentifully; after which time it froze no more to any considerable degree. When the froſt ended.

In the month of March and till the 21ſt of April, the weather was exceedingly cold. That day, about five in the morning, it began to ſnow, and ſnowed inceſſantly till two in the afternoon. The air ſtill continued very cold, wind in general N. N. E. On the 4th of May, in the afternoon, it began to rain, and after about two hours, ſnow and hail were intermixt with the rain; then ſnow fell alone and continued to do ſo the greater part of the next day. The morning after, the ſnow was many inches deep upon the level ground; it ſoon diſſolved and the air became ſerene and mild, wind S. S. W. A great fall of ſnow on the 4th and 5th of May 1740.

The ſummer ſucceeding this hard winter was uncommonly cold, dry and unfruitful. The winter after was ſeverer than many of the preceding, with great falls of ſnow. The following ſummer, 1740. 1741.

mer proved hotter than ordinary, and the autumn warm and rainy; from which time till Chriſtmas the weather was very variable.

Pulmonic complaints very rife upon the breaking up of the froſt.

Tho' during the ſeverity of the froſt, people in general were healthy, yet upon the thaw towards the ſpring, pleuritic and peripneumonic diſorders and coughs were more rife than ordinary, at this ſeaſon of the year, when the piercing N. E. winds commonly prevail, productive of ſuch complaints by obſtructing perſpiration; but they now yielded to bleeding and the uſual antiphlogiſtic method, &c. nothing peculiar appearing in their nature to require different treatment, paying due attention to age, conſtitution, &c.

In order to preſerve my propoſed ſeries of obſervations, I cannot avoid the repetition of what I have mentioned in my former publication, relative to a fever accompanied with a tumour of the face of ſuch a kind as I never had ſeen or read

read any deſcription of, vulgarly called the *mumps*.

Of the MUMPS.

This epidemic appeared early in the ſummer after the preceding pulmonary diſorders went off, increaſing as the weather grew hotter; and it was chiefly among children and young perſons. It was a diſeaſe truly of the inflammatory kind, without having the febrile ſymptoms run very high, nor was it of a dangerous nature; I had a great many patients of it but not one died. The ſwellings of the face, neck and throat, whence the diſeaſe derived its name, began ſoon after its invaſion, and ſometimes they increaſed in a few days to an enormous ſize, the ſkin appearing of a little deeper color than a damaſk roſe; they were in general attended with but little pain; ſeldom terminated in abſceſſes, and when they had that termination, upon opening they healed kindly by the common treatment. 1740.

The

The general antiphlogiſtic method ſucceeded, and the patients bore bleeding, purging and nitrous medicines very well. In ſome a thickneſs and hardneſs of the parotid and maxillary glands remained, after they were well in all other reſpects, which yielded readily to ſmall doſes of merc. dulc. interpoſing a gentle purge at due intervals; and ſometimes, beſides keeping the parts warm, I uſed a liniment prepared with unguent. cœruleum mitius & liniment. volatil. confining the patient within doors and to a proper regimen, during the mercurial courſe.

Of a Metaſtaſis of the morbific matter upon the teſticles

In five or ſix adults the tumefaction of the face, &c. ſubſided in a few days, and then I obſerved the morbific matter was immediately tranſlated to the teſtes, where the tumors were attended with more pain and cured with more difficulty; but all the patients for whom I was concerned, wherein this Metaſtaſis occurred, were cured by the ſame method without ending in ſuppuration.

This

This diſeaſe prevailed all the ſummer-ſeaſon, and did not entirely diſappear till autumn 1741, which was almoſt a year and half from its firſt appearance about ten miles ſouth of the city of Norwich, where I then dwelt. ||

A fever of another kind.

1741

I firſt obſerved it about the middle of November.

Soon after the diſappearance of the laſt epidemic another was introduced, which, tho' ſometimes attended with eruptions, yet was evidently of the inflammatory ſpecies, and yielded to the general treatment of inflammatory diſeaſes.

The ſymptoms.

This diſeaſe ſeized men, women, and children of all ages and conſtitutions, but thoſe of ſanguine habits moſt violently. At the firſt ſeizure the ſymptoms in general were coldneſs and ſhivering, pain of the head, laſſitude, faintneſs, oppreſſion

|| I have ſeveral times ſince obſerved a ſlight fever, attended with ſome degree of tumefaction upon the face, &c. called alſo the *mumps*, but it differed from the diſeaſe here deſcribed in many reſpects.

preſſion of the breaſt, ſhort and quick breathing, a pulſe remarkably depreſſed, with ſickneſs and vomiting; and in the progreſs of the diſeaſe ſome had eruptions, as fiery red ſpots of different ſizes, others had an univerſal efflorescence, and others what much reſembled a raſh, all which ſeemed to be of the ſame affinity; and ſome became delirious evenearly in the diſeaſe, when bleeding was omitted at firſt.

Method of cure.

After bleeding, according to the ſtrength of the patient, a vomit was given, then a gentle purge, keeping the bowels open with the moſt lenient purgatives or clyſters throughout the diſeaſe; and it was often found neceſſary to repeat bleeding two or three times. After theſe evacuations, bliſtering in delirious caſes was of ſingular ſervice, more eſpecially on the head, but it was obſerved to be detrimental when recourſe was had to it before. The patients bore nitrous remedies very well; and draughts prepared with ſal. abſinth. ſucc. limon. &c.

were

were found very beneficial in caſe of ſickneſs and vomiting: and the general antipthlogiſtic method and cool regimen, diluting freely with proper liquors anſwered ſo well, that few died who were regularly treated from the beginning, after this manner. Some who in the courſe of this diſeaſe were attacked with pleuritic and pulmonic complaints, I found it neceſſary to bleed and repeat that evacuation, even in the height of the diſeaſe, tho' attended at the ſame time with eruptions; and I have good reaſon to believe, I ſaved the lives of many by this means, notwithſtanding the prevailing opinion was againſt it, under an apprehenſion that the eruptions would retreat, in conſequence of bleeding, and the patients ſuffer: however, I never omitted recommending it earneſtly under theſe circumſtances, when I thought the pulſe would bear it, and it ſeldom or never failed of anſwering my expectation; for what was deemed malignity, diſcouraging others from this practice, I conſidered as proceeding from a ſtate of

blood highly inflammatory; and the great fizineſs of it verified my opinion.

From theſe conſiderations and appearances, I rarely gave cordial medicines, and when indicated, under ſome particular circumſtances, I found julep. è camphora preferable to any other.

I was called to ſeveral perſons many days after they had been ſeized with this diſeaſe, and treated with cordial medicines and the hot regimen, without evacuations, from the miſtaken notion I have mentioned, and without producing any kind of eruption; tho' the fever was raiſed to a high degree by this management, and of courſe all the ſymptoms aggravated. In theſe caſes I did not heſitate in reſpect to bleeding and gentle purging; and ſoon after theſe evacuations, and the obſervance of a cool regimen, eruptions appeared, which ſenſibly relieved the patients, and they recovered, tho' before apparently in the moſt imminent danger. Here my opinion and

practice

practice met with great oppoſition; but the ſucceſs ſilenced my opponents.

I obſerved many at the firſt attack had a very languid pulſe and often ſcarce to be felt. Some had a propenſity to ſweat at the beginning of the diſeaſe; but then ſweating ſeemed prejudicial; afterwards, if not forced, it proved beneficial when ariſing in conſequence of plentiful dilution, &c. *

A remarkable caſe demonſtrating the good effect of bleeding in this fever.

I was called to a farmers ſervant, an athletic young man of a very ſanguine habit, who was ſeized with this fever two days before. It began as uſual with coldneſs and ſhivering; now he complained of a vehement pain in his head and loins, had great oppreſſion on his

 breaſt

* Doctor Daniel Cox, with whom I was well acquainted, wrote very judiciouſly upon this fever at that time

breaſt and præcordia, with quick reſpiration; his pulſe was almoſt inperceptible, and he had a very great propenſity to ſweat. Tho' his pulſe was ſo feeble, I took away directly about ſixteen ounces of blood, which was ſizey to a great degree, and his pulſe evidently roſe whilſt he was bleeding. Then I ordered a common clyſter ſhould be given him forthwith, and that he ſhould take a ſcruple or half a dram of purified nitre diſſolved in a draught of barley-water every two hours, and drink plentifully of the common diluting liquors adviſed in inflammatory diſorders. Next day I found his ſymptoms alleviated, but thought it proper to bleed him again as much as before, and ordered a repetition of the clyſter towards evening and a lenient purge next morning. Upon this days viſit he complained of pain of his ſide, on which account a veſicatory was applied to it, after the operation of the purge was over, which gave him relief; yet, conſidering his ſtrength of conſtitution and the ſtate of his blood, I bled him

him again freely the next day; after which, by perſiſting in the uſe of nitre and keeping his body open, with the obſervance of a proper regimen, he ſoon recovered a good ſtate of health.

Another caſe of this kind of fever in a perſon of a different conſtitution attended with ſome ſingular circumſtances.

I was deſired to attend a gentlewoman of a lax habit and very weak conſtitution about thirty years of age, on the ſixth day of her illneſs, when I found her pulſe weak but regular, complaining of pain univerſally, but more upon her ſide than any where elſe, attended with a cough and difficulty of breathing; and ſhe was alſo very reſtleſs, without having had the benefit of a motion for many days; nor had ſhe loſt any blood. I bled her forthwith to the quantity of eight ounces, and ordered a common clyſter to be given immediately after

bleeding, with draughts of nitre and camphire, with other medicines uſually preſcribed in pleuritic and pulmonary complaints. The pain of the ſide continuing, I bled her again next day, and the clyſter given the day before, neither returning nor producing any effect, I directed a laxative mixture to be taken in ſmall quantities till the end ſhou'd be anſwered, and then a veſicatory to be applied to the ſide, which procured great relief; but the fever ſtill continued and a thruſh came on, which went quite through the alimentary canal, appearing about the anus as in an infant; * ſtill ſhe ſtruggled through this very dangerous illneſs and perfectly recovered; though it was undoubtedly much prolonged, and rendered worſe for want of bleeding and proper treatment

* I never before, nor ſince, ſaw the thruſh appear in ſuch a manner in an adult. I procured the very efficacious medicine for her on this occaſion, which I have ſince diſcovered and publiſhed in my Caſes and Remarks in Surgery, p. 406 & ſeq. edit. II. and it had an extraordinary effect by bringing away great quantities of thick ſloughs by ſtool, keeping her body open during the uſe of it. Undoubtedly the alimentary canal is often much affected with the thruſh, when we obſerve it upon the fauces &c.

treatment in time, her blood having a thick buff-colour ſize of ſtrong coheſion.

The bark proved an excellent reſtorative in the concluſion of this diſeaſe, and Aſſes milk was very beneficial to the ſame purpoſe.

A caſe in this kind of fever, which through neglect terminated in mortifications.

I was deſired, by ſome humane and benevolent perſons, to viſit a poor labouring man, who, at a great diſtance from his own home, had been confined with this fever more than a fortnight, deſtitute of neceſſary ſupport, and without any medical aſſiſtance. He was about thirty years of age, of a robuſt and ſanguine conſtitution, and had not lived very temperately.

I found him in cold, clammy ſweats, with a feeble intermitting pulſe, and was

informed, that he had been in a delirious ſtate for many days, voiding his excrements and urine involuntarily. Upon farther examination I diſcovered a deep and ſpreading mortification over the Os ſacrum extending far unto the hips, and one upon each heel; all which penetrated to the bones.

Under theſe deplorable circumſtances, I was not willing to abandon this poor man to his fate, and the charitable perſons I have mentioned readily offering to ſupport him, I as readily engaged to take care of him, without any proſpect of gratuity for my attendance, &c. I ordered a veſicatory to be applied to his head, the bark and the volatiles to be taken, and the mortifications to be dreſſed in the uſual manner. The next day I found his pulſe better; he was perfect in his ſenſes, and the mortifications had made no farther progreſs.

By a regular perſeverance in all reſpects, this diſmal caſe ended happily, by

by which we were amply rewarded in preſerving a life, that might become uſeful to a wife and family of young helpleſs children.

This kind of fever continued with us more than ſix months. It was not confined to region or climate, as appears by the following extract of a letter, which I received from an ingenious young Surgeon, then firſt Mate on board the Royal Sovereign in Sir John Norris's ſquadron, cruiſing in the Bay of Biſcay, and upon the Spaniſh and French coaſts, &c.

Royal Sovereign, Dec. 24. 1741.

" You may depend upon the account I " ſend you, according to your deſire, con- " cerning the fever, which has raged ſome " time among us in different latitudes; for " I made my obſervations with the utmoſt " exactneſs; taking notes at the ſame time " in my journal, and always viſited the pa- " tients three times in a day.

We heard of its being in the Navy ſome months before we had it with us in Norfolk.

Description of the fever.

" Our patients in general were seized " with shiverings, pain of the head, giddi- " ness, lassitude, faintness, great oppression " on the breast and præcordia, sickness and " frequent vomiting, with a pulse almost " imperceptible. In a few hours after the " attack they became so weak as to be in- " capable of assisting themselves upon almost " every occasion; I was myself so affected, " with the utmost depression of spirits; and " we were very subject to relapse. I ob- " served the most sanguine, vigorous and " bravest of our men were most liable to the " disease, but, I think, we did not lose one " of those, who were seized at first with fe- " brile symptoms to an intense degree, at- " tended with a strong pulse.

" I made this single remark, perhaps not " altogether impertinent. A young fellow " of a very robust and sanguine constitution, " most subject to this disease, as I have ob- " served, resolutely bathed in the sea every " day and escaped. Some of our patients " on the 5th or 6th day were seized with " diarrhœas, which generally proved salu- " tary,

" tary, and went off ſpontaneouſly. Three " or four after the fourth or fifth day fell " into ſtupors for eight or ten days; theſe " had black ſcabrous tongues, accompanied " with eruptions, ſpaſms, &c. yet they " recovered. All the perſons appointed to " attend the ſick were affected more or leſs; " tho' we had, according to the ſeamens " phraſe, fine airy births. †

" Our general method of cure was this. " Bleeding plentifully at firſt, and repeat- " ing it occaſionally, according to the pa- " tient's ſtrength and conſtitution and other " circumſtances. After bleeding we gave " a vomit, and when that did not alſo ope- " rate by ſtool, a clyſter was given, prepared " with ſea-water and oil. If the ſickneſs " and vomiting continued, we then ordered " the common ſaline mixture of ſucc. limon. " ſal. abſinth. &c. For common drinks " to be taken liberally, we directed barley- " water agreeably acidulated with vegeta- " able

Method of cure.

† The term *birth* ſignifies an incloſed ſpace, or kind of apartment, made with canvas, for one ſeaman or more.

" ble or mineral acids, and ſuch kind of " aceſcent liquors, without any ſort of ani- " mal food: and we alſo gave cooling- " powders compoſed of nit. punificat. and " ocul. cancrorum; keeping the bowels open " with lenient purgatives or clyſters.

" When a ſtupor came on we always had " recourſe to bliſtering and temperate cor- " dials; finding the pulſe depreſſed and ir- " regular; and we frequently obſerved ſin- " gular good effects on this occaſion, from " the application of a veſicatory to the head.

" All who died became delirious, and " and ſome raved forty-eight hours before " they expired, when convulſions cloſed the " ſcene.

" This was our general method of the " cooling kind, varied occaſionally, as rea- " ſon, obſervation, and experience directed " us: and indeed I muſt think we were " very happy in the ſucceſs of our practice, " conſidering the great diſadvantages of ſi- " tuation, as we loſt no more than ten pa-

" tients

" *tients in the whole cruiſe, and we had*
" *above two hundred of the ſhip's crew ſick*
" *at one time.*

" *Notwithſtanding the continuance of this*
" *fever in our ſhip, we were ſoon ordered*
" *upon duty again in the ſame ſtation. In*
" *our ſecond cruiſe we had a greater number*
" *of ſick, and the diſeaſe was attended with*
" *more violent ſymptoms in general, conſe-*
" *quently more died, which we attributed*
" *to the exceſſive impurity of the air between*
" *decks, the neceſſary conſequence of keeping*
" *the ports cloſe, which the fine weather*
" *before permitted us to keep almoſt always*
" *open: but we found no reaſon to alter our*
" *method of treating our patients. Very*
" *few either in this or in our firſt cruiſe,*
" *had eruptions appear in the courſe of the*
" *fever.*"

The

At the deſire of the Officers of the Royal Sovereign, the ſubſtance of this narration was tranſmitted to the Lords of the Admiralty, and by their order it was publiſhed the *St. James's Evening-Poſt.*

The very alarming malignant fever which was attended with the gangrenous ſore-throat, immediately ſucceeded the laſt epidemic.

It made its firſt appearance in May 1742. in that part of Norfolk where I then practiſed; and as I had never ſeen the diſeaſe, nor could I recollect any deſcription of it, that had been recorded by any of our own or other obſervators, I was at a loſs to know its nature and conſequently the proper method of treating it. Upon the ſtricteſt inquiry I could not then hear of its being in any other part of the county or the kingdom, nor could I procure ſatisfactory information to direct my judgment and practice, by looking into ſome antient writers, and alſo ſome of the laſt century; tho' they did afford me ſome uſeful knowledge on this very intereſting ſubject.

This

This diſeaſe was chiefly confined to children and young perſons, tho' ſome adults were ſeized with it; and the mortality which attended it was very great indeed, in none greater, perhaps, in this kingdom, except the plague itſelf.

I was at once convinced upon inſpection, that the tonſils, fauces, &c. had not the appearance of a common inflammation, and they had an early tendency to mortify; nor did the ſymptoms of the fever ſhew it to be of the inflammatory kind: and I ſoon found that the patients could bear neither bleeding nor purging, nor the cooling, antiphlogiſtic treatment. Hence I was led to conſider it of a putrid or malignant nature, conſequently treated it as ſuch, with temperate cordials, alexipharmics, preparations of the bark, &c. frequently uſing warm, antiſeptic gargariſms. Sometimes I thought bliſtering the throat or ſides of the neck did ſervice, but ſcarifying the affected parts was evidently prejudicial. Tho'

purging

purging was hurtful in this diſeaſe, yet common clyſters were occaſionally neceſſary to prevent the inconveniencies ariſing from coſtiveneſs, or a long retention of the fœces; and when the bowels were in the contrary ſtate, which frequently happened, it demanded particular attention.

This diſeaſe continued for more than ten years in the county of Norfolk.

This diſeaſe continued more than ten years in my circle of buſineſs, but it was not equally violent all that time; it raged and was moſt mortal in the years 1745 and 1746. I had a great number of patients of it, which gave me opportunities of ſeeing it in every ſhape; but I forbear taking any farther notice of what I obſerved, three great Phyſicians, Doctor Fothergill, Doctor Huxham and Doctor Wall having treated fully and learnedly upon the nature and method of cure; to which may alſo be added Mr. Penroſe's Diſſertation on the inflammatory gangrenous and putrid ſore-throat, which contains very judicious

and

and useful characteristics of distinction, to direct the judgment of the unexperienced. ‡

C I held

‡ There seemed to me, upon strict examination, a great analogy between this disease and that of the horned-cattle, which continued many years in this island, the pathognomonic of which also appeared in the throat; and it is observable, that Aretæus, in his accurate description of this malignant disease about 2000 years ago, expressly says it was preceded by a plague amongst that species of cattle, using the word *lues* which signifies *pestilence* in man and *murrain* or the *plague* in cattle. Lib. i. cap. 9. de causis & signis morborum.

Doctor Layard, an eminent English Physician, and Dr. Blondet a Physician of great character at Montpelier, condescended, for the public good, to write upon this epidemic contagious disease, which proved dreadfully mortal to the cattle in different countries and climates.—Doctor Layard proposed inoculation on this occasion, but the practice did not prevail.

This malignant fever and sore-throat was very rife in France about the year 1748.—The celebrated Monsr. Le Cat, M. D. C. at Rouen in Normandy, wrote a Dissertation upon it.—Doctor Chomel, an eminent Physician at Paris, also wrote upon this disease, which he observed there that year; and by histories of cases he shews the pernicious effects and fatal consequences of bleeding in it. In his Treatise he has given a long list of writers upon this direful disease, who lived in different countries and ages.—The learned and accurate observer, Doctor Johnson of Kidderminster, in his excellent historical Dissertation

on

I held a conſtant epiſtolatory correſpondence for eight years, with the gentleman who favoured me with the preceding account of the fever, which raged in the Royal Navy, and particularly on board the Royal Sovereign, in the year 1741; during which correſpondence till the concluſion of the war in 1748, he gratified me with many memorable occurrences, ſome of which I have extracted from his letters to be here inſerted; firſt begging leave to be indulged with a ſhort digreſſion in juſtice to my friend's character, and to give the more weight and

A ſhort digreſſion in regard to a very worthy friend.

on malignant diſeaſes which prevailed there for ſome years, has mentioned this ſore-throat, with ſome particular remarks upon it.

Creech's Tranſlation of Lucretius's hiſtorical account of the plague at Athens, with explanatory notes, wherein are mentioned the ſentiments of Thucydides and Hippocrates upon the ſame ſubject, are well worth reading, as they contain many uſeful phyſiological and medical remarks and obſervations, concerning the nature and cauſe of malignant fevers in general, as well as this deplorable calamity in particular, which depopulated that famous city in all its glory.—It is a common ſaying; where the natural Philoſopher ends the Phyſician muſt begin.

and authenticity to his valuable and uſeful communications, he being a man of great veracity, probity and application, to whom I am much obliged.

When he was well qualified for the Univerſity, he was committed to the care and tuition of a regular ſurgeon in extenſive practice, and being very ſtudious, he made a greater proficiency than common in a few years. At about 20 years of age he reſolved to enter into the navy, we being juſt then engaged in a war with France and Spain. Upon his firſt examination at Surgeons-Hall for this purpoſe, he obtained a qualification for principal Surgeon of a ſmall man of war, by the unanimous approbation of the examiners, confirmed by the examining Phyſician; which was conſidered as a ſingular honor conferred upon him; but one of thoſe gentlemen, in the moſt friendly manner adviſed him to wave this appointment, and accept that of firſt mate of the Royal Sovereign juſt going out upon a cruiſe, which he told him, he could,

and would, if he choſe it, procure for him without any loſs of time, under a very able and experienced Surgeon his particular friend, where he would have the beſt opportunities of making himſelf acquainted with the naval or marine practice of phyſic and ſurgery, * to qualify himſelf the better to act alone afterwards; aſſuring him at the ſame time, that through his intereſt too, he might depend upon having a ſhip provided for him againſt he returned from the cruiſe.

Not long after he went on board, the principal Surgeon fell ſick, and for the preſervation of his life, was obliged to be carried on ſhore, and there left for the recovery of his health. By this unfortunate incident the care and important charge of the ſhip's crew devolved upon him, with the aſſiſtance of four mates: however, his conduct in this ſtation proved highly to his credit, and perfectly

|| Mr. Northcote wrote an inſtructive treatiſe upon this ſubject in the year 1770.

ly to the ſatisfaction of the officers, as well as the common men, by his exemplary tenderneſs and humanity ſhewn in the exerciſe of his profeſſion, with the utmoſt diligence and attention, as I had the pleaſure of hearing from undoubted authority.

After rhe peace was concluded he returned to London, where he attended the Hoſpitals and Lectures upon every branch of the Medical Art; then at Paris, and afterwards ſtudied at Edinburgh, where he took a Doctor's Degree, much to his reputation, his Theſis Inaguralis having been much approved by the Profeſſors.

CASES and REMARKS.

Communicated by the gentleman whom I have been mentioning.

Caſe of a fractured jaw-bone.

" When I was in the Royal Sovereign, " a ſeaman who had always enjoyed good " health, came to aſk my advice as we " lay in Portſmouth harbour, he having " two years before at New-York, frac- " tured the Maxilla inferior, by cracking " a hard walnut. The fractured bone " not having been properly confined and " treated at firſt, it was now become ſo " troubleſome and painful, that he was " unable to maſticate ſolid food. Upon " inſpection I found the bone black, " and part of it moveable, ſo that with " my finger and thumb, I eaſily extract- " ed more than an inch of the whole " ſubſtance, with the dens canin. and

" one

" one of the molares ſtill in their ſockets.
" The cure was ſoon effected by the ap-
" plication of lint moiſtened in a mix-
" ture of aq. calcis and tinct. myrrhe:
" and in a reaſonable time the ſpace was
" filled up with oſſeous matter, and
" became as hard as bone itſelf, ad-
" mitting of maſtication without any
" uneaſineſs. *

A caſe of a fracture of the ſcull, attended with ſome extraordinary circumſtances.

" Paul Spliff, a very corpulent Dutch-
" man, one of our ſailors on board the
" Royal Sovereign, walking in a dark night
" with ſome of his comrades in Portſmouth
" Dock-yard, fell into the Dry-dock be-
" between 20 and 30 feet deep, and his
" head came firſt upon a piece of timber.
" His companions took him up immediate-
" ly, ſenſeleſs and indeed ſeemingly dead,

* See a caſe in my Obſervations, Edit. II. Page. 72.

" and brought him on board. Our worthy
" ſurgeon Mr. Green, being ſick on ſhore,
" the care of him fell upon me; and with
" the moſt attentive examination I could
" ſcarce feel any pulſe, which tho' almoſt
" imperceptible, was the only ſign of life
" remaining. Upon the fall he had bled
" very much at the noſe, mouth, and ears,
" and the bleeding ſtill continuing, with the
" weakneſs of his pulſe, prevented my
" bleeding him directly. His head was
" immediately ſhaved all over, and there
" appeared a large Ecchymoſis upon the
" right ſide of his head and forehead. Our
" Surgeon being too ill to venture to come
" on board upon this occaſion, I ſent forth-
" with to the Surgeon of the Dock-yard,
" to beg the favour of his coming with the
" meſſenger, to give me his advice and aſ-
" ſiſtance, apprehending there was a frac-
" ture, which might require ſcalping and
" trepanning without delay; but he abſo-
" lutely refuſed his attendance at this time
" of the night; I then ſent the only mate I
" had with me at this juncture, to remon-
" ſtrate to him in the moſt preſſing man-

ner

" ner the apparent neceſſity of ſomething
" being ſpeedily done for the preſervation
" of the man's life, deſiring if he did not
" chooſe to come inſtantly, that he would
" be ſo kind as to lend us his trepanning
" inſtruments, ours now being at the inſtru-
" ment-makers to be put in order; but this
" requeſt he alſo cruelly refuſed; therefore,
" at this time of the night, and under theſe
" unhappy circumſtances, I could do no-
" thing but ſcalp him, which I did exten-
" ſively, as ſoon as poſſible, and diſcharged
" a great quantity of coagulated blood, up-
" on which his pulſe roſe and became more
" regular, which before was depreſſed and
" very irregular, as uſual when the brain
" is oppreſſed. I then found the Os Fron-
" tis fractured with great depreſſion, and
" ſeveral fiſſures in almoſt every direction;
" one in particular extended far into the
" parietal bone, and another into the orbit
" of the eye; but what ſurpriſed me moſt
" of all, was a wide ſeparation the whole
" extent of the coronal ſuture. Tho' I
" could not elevate the depreſſed pieces of
" the cranium, yet the patient received ſo

" much

"much relief from the ſcalping and re-
"moval of the extravaſated blood, that in
"an hour or two after he recovered his
"ſenſes and ſpeech, with an improvement
"of his pulſe, which afforded me great ſa-
"tisfaction under ſuch deſperate circum-
"ſtances: however, early in the morning I
"conducted him to the Hoſpital at Goſport,
"where trepanning was immediately per-
"formed, and, at the ſame time, a fluid
"appearing under the Dura Mater, it was
"thought adviſable to divide it the whole
"length of the ſeparation of the future
"with ſciſſars, which was from one tem-
"poral bone to the other. The operation
"ſucceeded very happily, as I was after-
"wards informed." †

The Dura Mater ſucceſsfully divided the whole length of the Coronal ſuture.

Another

† See my Treatiſe on wounds, in note P. 305, and Caſes and Remarks in Surgery, Edit. II. concerning fractures of the ſcull. In a courſe of 40 years practice I have been concerned in a great number of fractures upon every part of the ſcull, and ſucceeded by the operation of the Trephine in about two thirds of them; even when applied to the exceptionable parts according to the direction of writers on Surgery, it has been attended with ſucceſs.

Another caſe of a fracture of the ſcull attended with ſome ſingular circumſtances.

" After quitting the Royal Sovereign,
" and being appointed chief Surgeon to a
" ſmall Man of War, inſtead of lying in
" Port-Mahon Harbour, as we expected,
" all the winter, we were ſent in com-
" pany with the Terrible, to cruiſe in the
" Strait's Mouth, where after a ſmart
" engagement I was ſent for by the
" Surgeon of our conſort, to aſſiſt him in
" the following caſe.

" William Bright aged about 24, of a
" good habit of body and of an athletic
" conſtitution, complained very much of
" pain on the back of his hand, wriſt,
" and arm; which he could not bear to
" be moved, or even touched, without
" giving him the moſt exquiſite ſenſati-
" on of pain; tho' there was no viſible
" hurt

" hurt upon the limb; but whilſt exam-
" ining it, we obſerved ſome blood drop-
" ping from his head, and upon ſearching
" there, diſcovered a wound, and the
" probe inſtantly convinced us the cra-
" nium was fractured; conſequently we
" ſcalped him directly, and after ſuffer-
" ing the veſſels to bleed freely, reſtrain-
" ed the hæmorrhage and trepanned
" him, judging it moſt adviſable to pro-
" ceed to that operation without delay,
" before the ſymptomatic fever ſhould
" come on and probably worſe ſymptoms
" ſupervene, by the Encephalon ſuffer-
" ing from depreſſed fragments of bone
" and extravaſated blood; beſides we had
" reaſon to believe the ball might be
" lodged there, from the wound being
" perpendicular, through the upper part
" of the right parietal bone, and to the
" beſt of the patient's remembrance, who
" now had his ſenſes perfectly, it was
" received at the very inſtant he was
" ſtooping to take up his muſket in the
" heat of the engagement. The piece

" of

" of the cranium which the ball took in
" its courſe was ſeparated all round, and
" conſiderably forced down upon the
" *Dura Mater*, without any ſhivers or
" fiſſures appearing externally. We ap-
" plied the trephine a little below the
" inferior part of the fracture, and when
" we arrived at the *Diploe*, we found the
" circular piece of bone completely cut
" through ſo far, quite looſe, and upon
" taking that out, it evidently appeared
" to us, that a much greater extent of
" the inner table was broken off, that
" was looſe and forced down upon the
" *Dura Mater*, which it had lacerated;
" but we could not diſcover the ball,
" even after we cut the perforation made
" by that and the trephine one into the
" other, and extracted ſeveral large pieces
" of the lower table. After the ſtricteſt
" ſearch we could not find the ball, or
" any other extraneous body; but felt
" more ſplinters of the inner table looſe,
" which we could not extract; and from
" this conſideration, I urged making one

" or

" or more perforations, but my friend, a " very good Surgeon, oppoſed this ſtep " and ſo it was not taken. ‡

" The patient was dreſſed in the moſt " eaſy and gentle manner, an exact re- " gimen

‡ If one perforation of the ſcull, made in a depending part, will give an opportunity of ſufficiently elevating a piece or pieces, or of removing fragments of the bone oppreſſing the brain, and alſo of diſcharging any extravaſated fluid contained underneath, it will be better, for obvious reaſons, not to make more; but it may often be found requiſite to make more, as I have obſerved in patients of my own and thoſe of other Surgeons, in conſultations where I have been, with the concurrent opinion of the ableſt and moſt judicious practitioners: and, indeed, I think none can be competent judges in ſuch caſes without ſeeing them and attending minutely and attentively to every circumſtance.—See Mem. de l' Acad, Roy. de Chirurgie ſur la Multiplicité des Trepans, Tom. 1. Pag. 251 & ſeq.——And, concerning the uſefulneſs of perforated Plates of Lead applied after Trepanning, ſee my Treatiſe on Wounds, P. 315 & ſeq. and in my Caſes and Remarks in Surgery, P. 14.

Tho' I have known fractures of the ſcull ſucceſsfully treated without Trepanning, yet I am perſuaded many lives have been loſt for want of having that operation performed in time.

" gimen obſerved, veneſection ſeveral
" times repeated, and lenient purgatives
" occaſionally adminiſtered.

" The ſymptoms attending the hand
" and arm immediately upon the acci-
" dent, went off upon the operation;
" the wound digeſted very well, and the
" *Dura Mater* had a good aſpect; yet,
" as the ball was left, we had great rea-
" ſon to fear direful ſymptoms would
" ſooner or later ſupervene.

" On the ſeventh day after the opera-
" tion this patient was conveyed to the
" Hoſpital at Gibraltar, where he was
" treated judiciouſly; and after the ex-
" foliations and ſome ſplinters were
" thrown off, the wound was cicatrized,
" and he was thought fit to do duty
" again in the ſhip, after about 3 months
" continuance in the Hoſpital, where no
" alarming ſymptoms occurred, nor was
" the ball diſcovered. He was then re-
" turned on board his ſhip, and the un-
" dulatory motion of the ſhip though at
" anchor,

A remarkable incident.

" anchor, brought on ſuch a vertigo and " other complaints of the nervous kind, " that it was though adviſable to have " him ſent back to the Hoſpital, where " theſe ſymptoms very ſoon went off, and " he walked about apparently well. After " this I never ſaw him, but was credibly " informed he did not long continue " free from the moſt alarming ſymp- " toms, and loſt the uſe of his right arm, " where his firſt complaint was, and the " ſight of his right eye, which is con- " trary to general obſervation, that when " paralytic ſymptoms come on in con- " ſequence of fractures of the ſcull, or " injuries done to the Encephalon, they " appear on the oppoſite ſide.

" As every circumſtance of ſuch an " extraordinary caſe demands notice, I " ſhall uſe my utmoſt endeavours to ob- " tain a particular account of its event, " in order to tranſmit it to you.". ‖

The

‖ No farther Intelligence could be obtained in this caſe.

Monſ. Le Dran, in his Treatiſe on gun-ſhot-wounds, relates a caſe of a man's dying ſuddenly with a ball lodged upon the *Sella turcica*, a year after the accident happened.

In February 1742.

" The day after our Fleet, under the " command of Admiral Matthews, who " ſhould have been better ſupported by " Leſtock, had engaged and put to flight " the combined Fleets of France and " Spain, the wounded were ſent to the " Hoſpital at Port-Mahon, where our " Ship was left for reparation, and I had " the opportunity of attending and dreſ- " ſing there till April.

" In this Hoſpital we had a great va- " variety of caſes in reſpect to gun-ſhot- " wounds and compound fractures, with " many amputations of courſe from ſuch " accidents; and here I recommended " the uſe of your retractor and method " of amputating above the knee, which " were much approved.

" As to compound fractures I muſt " confeſs I ſaw no treatment of them ſo " worthy notice as I obſerved under your " care; and indeed the ſucceſs here was " but very indifferent, which is the caſe

" in general in Hoſpitals, from bad air, " &c. particularly in military Hoſpi- " tals, where requiſite accommodation is " wanting. *

" Some extraordinary incidents in two " amputations induce me to give you " ſhort relations of them.

An amputation at the ſcapular articulation with an unhappy event.

" A very robuſt, healthy young man " had a ſhattered arm amputated at the " ſcapular articulation, by the Hoſpital " Surgeon, and the artery not being ſe- " cured by the needle and ligature, a " violent hæmorrhage enſued the next " day; upon which accident the patient " fainted, and it was thought he would " not have revived. When the dreſſings " were removed no bleeding appeared, " and the artery had ſo far retracted it- " ſelf that the mouth of it could not be " diſcovered,

* Obſerve what Sir John Pringle ſays concerning the Hoſpital Fever, &c. in his moſt excellent Book on Diſeaſes of the Army, which alſo contains much more uſeful medical knowledge than what the title ſpecifies.

" diſcovered; however a ſtyptic, was ap-
" plied by gueſs and a compreſs over it,
" having a perſon appointed to make
" conſtant preſſure upon it. Two days
" after, when it was apprehended there
" was no danger of a return of the bleed-
" ing, the artery broke out again, and
" then the patient ſunk irrecoverably
" under it, before it was diſcovered.
" A melancholy circumſtance indeed to
" relate, thus to have a life loſt for want
" of due attention, and not having the
" artery effectually ſecured by needle and
" ligature at firſt. †

" The other caſe was alſo a compound
" fracture of the arm, ſo near the joint
" that the Surgeons at firſt determined
" to take it off there; but on farther
" conſideration, it was reſolved to ampu-
" tate it at the fractured part; previous
" to which a tape was paſſed with a
" ſeton-needle through the internal part

† See a pertinent caſe in my Obſervations, Edit. II. P. 341.

" of the arm near the bone, to ſerve the " purpoſe of a tourniquet, there not be- " ing room to affix that. The tape was " tied ſufficiently ſtrait with a bow- " knot, then the limb was amputated " and the artery taken up in the uſual " manner with the needle and ligature, " and the tape withdrawn. This patient " was ſeized with a bad fever and did " not recover." ‡

This method was originally practiſed in amputating at the joint.

" A young

‡ I can by preſſure with my thumb upon the little pectoral muſcle, juſt above the clavicle, ſtop the courſe of the blood in the ſubclavian artery, as I have mentioned in my Treatiſe on wounds, Pag. 78 & ſeq.

How to ſtop the courſe of the blood in the ſubclavian artery

I believe it would be no difficult matter for an ingenious mechanic to invent, with proper inſtructions, a machine for this purpoſe, by which means the operation might be performed at the articulation, with as much eaſe as a common amputation; but was I to perform the operation, and had an aſſiſtant I could well depend upon, I ſhould prefer his compreſſion, as mentioned above, for obvious reaſons.

In an amputation below the knee, I once ſaw a large portion of a tendon and a nerve included in the ligature with an artery, even by a Surgeon converſant in operations; in conſequence of which, pain, ſpaſms, and a violent fever enſued and carried off the patient, who was a

good

" A young man was brought to this " Hoſpital during my attendance, who " had his breaſt trodden upon about

Of an abceſs in the Thorax in conſequence of an external injury attended with remarkable circumſtances.

" half

good ſubject, in ſtrong convulſions on the third day after the operation. The day after the patient's death, I had an opportunity with ſome other Surgeons, of examining the ſtump, and we then found the ligature upon the parts as deſcribed. An ingenious Surgeon told me ſome time ago that when he was a Dreſſing-Pupil in an Hoſpital, he was an eye-witneſs where a ligature remained on till every other part of the ſtump was cicatrized, which could not be removed without making a deep incision to diſengage it from the tendinous parts, about which it was tied with the artery.

Thoſe who are inclined to follow Mr. Aikin's rational method in the Appendix to Mr. White's judicious Obſervations in Surgery, by making ligatures on the large arteries with forceps in amputations, as was formerly done, in order to obviate the inconveniencies and dangerous conſequences juſt mentioned, ſhould be particularly careful in doing it, after drawing out the veſſels to a ſufficient length, leaſt the retraction of them and the impulſe of the blood ſhould throw them off. Two fatal inſtances, for want of this attention I well remember to have happened more than 40 years ago, when the needle was ſeldom uſed: in one the hæmorrhage was ſo great, that the patient expired before the Surgeon could get to him, who lived but two miles off, no precaution having been taken to have recourſe to the tourniquet upon ſuch an incident; and the other patient never recovered the immenſe loſs of blood.

" half a year before, by a perſon very
" forcibly, whence violent ſymptoms en-
" ſued, as pain, great difficulty of breath-
" ing, cough, fever, &c. notwithſtanding
" proper care had been taken of him at
" firſt. In conſequence of this injury,
" a tumour at length appeared, with an
" obſcure fluctuation of a fluid, being
" much confined by the pectoral muſcle;
" however, it was determined in a con-
" ſultation

With the ſame conſiderations and views of thoſe ingenious gentlemen, very laudably attentive to the improvement of our art, I practiſed for many years much to the ſatisfaction of myſelf and other Surgeons, the method mentioned in a note at Pag. 335 of my Caſes and Remarks in Surgery. Edit. II.

By drawing the artery gently out a little way by one edge with diſſecting forceps made rough, or with very ſmall teeth for obvious reaſons, the ligature may be eaſily conveyed on with the needle, taking in only a little of the connecting cellular membrance effectually to prevent its ſlipping off; and it will cauſe no more pain or inconvenience than including the veſſels alone, which ſhould be tied but moderately ſtrait.

Either of theſe methods, and the application at firſt of the moſt eaſy dreſſing and bandage with the leaſt degree of circular preſſure, will certainly avert many formidable ſymptoms in conſequence of amputations.

" ſultation to open it, and an aperture
" was made with an impoſthume-lancet,
" very properly in the depending part,
" without any appearance of matter,
" only upon the point of the inſtrument,
" the muſcle cloſing the orifice, till his
" poſition was altered, when it came
" guſhing out in a large quantity; and
" from the flatus &c. it evidently pro-
" ceeded from the cavity of the Thorax.
" Upon dilating the wound a carious
" rib was diſcovered, and about two
" inches of it immediately extracted,
" entirely ſeparated from the cartilage.
" Towards the concluſion of this cure, a
" rib on the other ſide was fractured, by
" a violent fit of coughing, yet in length
" of time he recovered of this too.
" When this latter accident happened he
" was exceedingly emaciated, and four
" Surgeons, who ſtrictly examined him,
" were unanimous in opinion, that it was
" a complete fracture. Before the for-
" mer accident he was healthy, and never
" had any ſpecific ſymptoms of a vene-
" real, ſcorbutic or ſcrophulous nature;
" nor did any ſuch appear now.

A rib fractured by coughing.

A similar accident by such an exertion.

" Mr. Christy, senior Surgeon of this " Hospital, assured me, that he knew a " gentleman who fractured a rib by vio- " lent exertion in coughing.

Presuming upon the farther indulgence of my readers, I shall proceed to insert a few short extracts from the letters of my Correspondent, who was a diligent inquirer and observer; concerning the state of Physic aud Surgery in several places abroad, &c. adding here and there a note occasionally, believing they will not prove disagreeable, perhaps not altogether unprofitable, to those I professedly thus employ my time to serve: and should they afford them only a little entertainment, promoting a spirit of emulation to improve such hints to their advantage, my end and design will be answered.

The medical Art in no repute at Smyrna.

" In a cruise into the *Levant*, I found " no Physicians or Surgeons in any re- " pute at *Smyrna*, where illness detained " me some time, except those who at-

" tended

" tended the *European Factories*. The " Mahometans, being Fataliſts, pay very " little regard to Phyſic.

" When I uſed to take the air for the " recovery of my health in the environs of " this city on horſeback, very awkwardly " accoutred indeed in conformity to the " turkiſh mode, it was neceſſary to be " attended by a Janizary for protection, " as the Turkiſh robbers generally ſhoot " the traveller firſt and then rob him.

A neceſſary precaution in reſpect to the practice of the Turkiſh robbers.

" However, notwithſtanding the pre- " valent notion of the ferocious diſpoſi- " tion of the Turks, I found thoſe very " obliging who uſed to viſit our Facto- " ry, where I was well accommodated " during my ſtay at *Smyrna*; they uſed " to invite me to walk in their gardens, " preſenting me with fruit, and giving " other teſtimonies of civility and cour- " ous behaviour. There ſeems no dan- " ger of living among them, if we do " not concern ourſelves with their wo- " men or their religion; but commit-

The civility and humanity of the Turks.

" ting

" ting any acts of indiſcretion in theſe " points, wherein they are very jealous, " nice, and delicate, would probably ex- " cite their vengeance with fatal conſe- " quences.

Of the Elephantiaſis or Lepra Græcorum, being now in the Iſlands in the Archipelago.

" In the *Grecian Iſlands* in the *Archi-* " *pelago* the *Elephantiaſis*, or *Lepra Græ-* " *corum*, ſtill prevails; many poor mi- " ſerable objects I there beheld in this " condition.

" As no medical perſons by profeſſion " now dwell in theſe Iſlands, ſome of " them hearing that Engliſh men of " war were upon their coaſt, came on " board our ſhips, and almoſt every one " of them brought a pullet under his " arm to offer as a gratuity for our " advice. Tho' our humanity was ex- " ceedingly affected with the tyrannous " ſubjection they laboured under, joined " with the moſt noiſome contumacious " diſeaſe, yet as we were in a per- " petual fluctuating ſtate, cruiſing in " queſt of our enemies, that prevented

" even

"even a poſſibility of adminiſtring to "them any relief in their complicated "miſery. *

"In

* The *Elephantiaſis*, or *Lepra Græcorum*, which is of the ſame ſpecies with the *Lepra Arabum* is reckoned among the incurable diſeaſes; it is elegantly deſcribed by *Aretæus the Cappadocian*, *Lib.* II. *Cap.* 13. who ſays it is ſo called from its foul aſpect reſembling the Elephant's ſkin, with unequal protuberances, roughneſs and thickneſs of the parts having cleffs and chaps—*Pliny* ſays it appeared in *Italy* in the time of *Pompey the Great*, who thought it had been peculiar to the *Egyptians*.

Lucretius ſays,

Eſt Elephas Morbus qui propter Flumina Nili
Gignitur Ægypto, in Media, neque præterea uſquam.

Galen ſpeaks of ſeeing it to a great degree in his time in *Alexandria*, in which Univerſity he was educated, and afterwards reſided and practiſed at *Rome* in the higheſt reputation.——It is obſerved to be leſs frequent in *Germany*, *Scythia*, and the cold northern *Regions* than in hot countries.——*Amb. Pare* ſays it is more in *Spain* and *Africa* than in any other part of the world, and more in *Languedoc*, *Guyenne*, and *Provence* than in all *France* beſides.——*Towne* ſays that the inhabitants of the *Caribbee Iſlands*, both the white people and the negroes, are very ſubject to this diſeaſe, but that it there generally follows ſome other violent diſorder; or proceeds from living upon unwholſome diet: and *Doctor Dunbar*, with whom I was formerly acquainted, ſince dead, who practiſed

Reflections on the present state of Greece and Athens.

" In this cruise I had also opportuni-
" ties of visiting many other parts of *an-*
" *cient Greece*, but it gave me inexpres-
" sible concern to reflect upon and com-
" pare

tised there, confirmed to me what *Towne* has written upon this subject.——*Hughes*, in the IId Book of his excellent Natural History of *Barbadoes*, speaking of the diseases of this and the adjacent *Islands*, has something relating to this matter well worth reading.

An ingenuous young Gentleman, Mr. Forster, bred in Guy's Hospital and settled now in London, who was Surgeon to an *East-Indiaman*, lately informed me by letter, among other judicious remarks, what he observed of this dreadful disease on the *Malabar-Coast*, where he saw several miserable creatures, with one of their legs near 30 inches in circumference and the foot enlarged in proportion, unattended with pain tho' so enormously swelled; and under these circumstances, he says, no attempt is made in *India* to cure them.

The celebrated *Doctor Mead* has made inquiry about this matter, in his Book *de Medica Sacra*.——In the *medical Transactions of the College of Physicians*, Vol. I. *Dr. Heberden*, an eminent Physician at *Madeira*, has communicated the history of a cure of this disease by the *Bark* in a confirmed and inveterate case, and says he has found it successful in several incipient cases.——See in the *London Medical Observations and Inquiries*, Art. 18. Vol. I. a letter to the late ingenious and learned *Doctor Clephane* from a *Physician at Aix*, giving an account of the *Leprosy*,

" pare their preſent miſerable condition
" in abject vaſſalage and ſlavery under
" the Ottoman Government, with their
" former glorious ſtate; even *Athens*
" itſelf

Leproſy, as it appears in the *Hoſpital* called *St. Lazare*, which has been eſtabliſhed for time immemorial upon the *coaſt of Provence in France.—Vid. Celſum de Vitiligi-nis Speciebus*, Lib. V. Cap. 28. *et Hieronymum Mercuria-lem*, who has written very learnedly upon the *Lepra* in his Treatiſe *de morbis cutaneis*, wherein he mentions ma-ny of the earlieſt writers upon this diſeaſe, which is con-ſidered by the *Syſtematic writers* of the laſt century, as one of the *Opprobria Medicorum*, as well as by thoſe of greater antiquity.

As we have the *Leproſy* in this *Iſland* of a temperate climate, it generally appears like bran upon the ſkin, or a dry white ſcab, more frequently found upon the el-bows and knees than any where elſe, tho' no part of the body is exempt from it.——Under theſe circumſtances I have ſeen more good done by a long continued and re-gular perſeverance in the uſe of Merc. ſublimat. corroſiv. in very ſmall doſes, than by any other medicine, drink-ing, during the mercurial courſe, very liberally of a de-coction prepared with guaiacum, ſaſſafras, china and ſar-ſaparilla, having crude antimony boiled in it, looſely tied up in a piece of cloth; taking now and then a leni-ent purge and uſing a warm bath.—I have alſo experi-enced the good effects of this liniment.

R *picis*

" itſelf, once tranſcendently famous and " renowned throughout the world for " being the ſeat of arts and ſciences, " polite literature and refined policy, is " now overwhelmed with barbariſm and " ignorance.----Strange viciſſitudes!--- " *Quis talia fandò temperet à lacrymis?*

" I have collected ſome natural and " artificial curioſities, which I hope to " have the pleaſure of entertaining you " with, when we have ſubdued our ene- " mies. †

" We

℞ *picis liquid.* ℥*ij*ſ
Ung. e. Florib. Sambuc, ℥*iv.*
Lixiv. Tart. ℥*i. m. bis in die applic. calidâ manu.*

I have alſo ſeen ſingular good effects from the Cheltenham-waters, not only in this but in ſome other obſtinate cutaneous complaints; and lately in a very ſtriking inſtance, wherein many other powerful methods proved inefficacious.

† Upon my friend's return from this cruiſe, through the careleſſneſs of the perſons employed to careen the ſhip in Vado-Bay, ſhe was ſunk and lay under water ſome time, by which unfortunate accident he loſt ſome of his moſt valuable curioſities.

" We took ſeveral French prizes in this " cruiſe, in one of which was a merchant " who had been upon buſineſs to *Mecca*, " not as a Pilgrim. He made me a pre- " ſent of a pint bottle of true *Balſam o* " *Mecca*, as a grateful acknowledgement, " for ſome ſervices I rendered him in my " profeſſion, having nothing elſe left to " give. He was a very polite, well bred, " ſenſible man, and entertained me in an " agreeable manner upon various occur- " rences and ſubjects relative to what he " had obſerved there, and in many other " parts of the world.

" For the honour of the Engliſh Na- " tion, I can aſſure you, that our pri- " ſoners were always treated with great " humanity, &c.

" There is an odd kind of language, " mere jargon, called *Lingua Franca*, " which is ſpoken in the *Levant*, com- " poſed of *Italian*, *French*, and *Spaniſh*: " and it is alſo the common language in " almoſt all the *maritime Towns* in the " *Mediterranean*;

Of Lingua Franca.

" *Mediterranean*; hence it is neceſſary to " be acquainted with it in theſe deſtina- " tions. It is not taught grammatically; " but I ſoon acquired enough of it by " converſation to ſerve my purpoſe.

" Upon our return from this cruiſe " into the *Mediterranean*, while ſome " of the Fleet lay near *Leghorn*, I was " deſired, with other Surgeons, to viſit " a Scotch Surgeon of character, who " was ſettled there, in order to conſult " about a tumor upon his breaſt of " the glandular kind; * and it was our " unanimous opinion, that it ſhould be " ſpeedily extirpated, as it had a threat- " ning cancerous tendency; but in this " very populous town, an expert Surgeon " was not to be found to perform the " operation, and he was obliged to take " a journey to Florence on this account, " more than 40 miles from hence; in " which fine and large city and univer- " ſity,

Neither Surgeons nor Phyſicians of eminence at Leghorn.

* A few years ago my opinion was aſked in a ſimilar caſe; but the Gentleman, who had lived very intemperately, would not ſubmit to the operation and died miſerably.

" ſity, the capital of the Grand Duke of " Tuſcany's dominions, many high cha- " racters in both branches of the medical " art, reſide. The river Arno adds great- " ly to the beauty of this elegant town.

" I have had the honor of attending " an officer of high rank and character " in the army twice to *Rome*, which jour- " nies afforded me great pleaſure, and " gave me opportunities of inquiring " into the preſent ſtate of Phyſic and " Surgery in *Italy*; but I was extremely " concerned to find the medical art there " not in the repute it was formerly.

The Medical Art rather in a declining ſtate in Italy.

" Since the fall of the *Salernian-School*, " only *Bologna* and *Padua* are in credit " for the ſtudy of this ſcience, where " there are ſome eminent Profeſſors; " and at the latter Univerſity the great " *Morgagni* preſides, and ſupports the " reputation of it with dignity.

" I could not underſtand, that even at " *Rome* itſelf there are any phyſicians who

" now remarkably distinguish themselves, " where the illustrious *Baglivi* once shined " as a star of the first magnitude.

" That brave Officer who honoured " me with his friendship, was thought " to be the best Engineer in the Army; " and when he was some time after my " attending him to *Rome* appointed to " conduct the expedition against *Pondi-* " *cherry* which proved unsuccessful, he " pressed me to attend him as Surgeon " to the Train of Artillery, with the " prospect of being enriched by the " spoils of our enemies; but I declined " the offer, fearing the climate would not " agree with me, as I had been subject " to a spitting of blood in the *Levant*, " &c. Vain are the hopes and expecta- " tions of mortals! Upon the first at- " tack a chain-shot deprived this Hero " of both his legs and life, leaving much " to fame, and unhappily no person pro- " perly qualified to fill his post.

Of the unsuccessful expedition against Pondicherry.

" After

Of an agreeable Voyage with the King of Sardinia's Archbiſhop to his See at Cagliari.

" After my delightful excurſions to " *Rome*, our ſhip being ſtationed in the " *Mediterranean* near the *Iſland of Sardi-* " *nia*, it was appointed to carry the *King* " *of Sardinia's Archbiſhop* to his See at " *Cagliari*, whom we found a very agree- " able affable man, about 30 years of age.

" Stormy weather and adverſe winds " made our voyage tedious, but then it " gave me an opportunity of enjoying " much more entertaining and uſeful con- " verſation with his Lordſhip, in the moſt " pleaſing and familiar manner, which " fell principally to my ſhare; as I hap- " pened to be almoſt the only perſon " who ſpoke French tolerably, which " he ſpoke in perfection, and alſo the " Latin Tongue fluently; but he choſe " to converſe in French. In the courſe " of our converſation upon various ſub- " jects he informed me, that he believed " there were not many conſpicuous cha- " racters among the Phyſicians or Sur- " geons even at Turin, the Capital of " the King of Sardinia's Dominions.

Of Sir John Sinclair's coming on board his ſhip to conſult him.

" Soon after this, when we lay off " *Genoa*, *Sir John Sinclair*, a Scotch " Gentleman, one of the *King of Sardi-* " *nia's* Officers, came on board our Ship, " to aſk my opinion concerning a com- " plaint of his arm, &c. and conſider- " ing his ſtation and character, I thought " it prudent to adviſe a conſultation; " and *Genoa* being the neareſt large town, " thither I attended him on this ac- " count; but the Faculty there, in nei- " ther branch, ſeemed to ſhine in their " profeſſion.

The Phyſicians and Surgeons at Genoa not the beſt.

" This Gentleman's caſe was more " chirurgical than phyſical; the method " I propoſed in conſultation was put in " practice and happily ſucceeded, in per- " fectly curing this gallant Officer in a " ſhort time, who entertained no high " opinion of the *Genoeſe* Æſculapii: and, " indeed, thoſe who had attended him " before in the Army had not treated " the caſe judiciouſly.

" In

The Hoſpital at Genoa not a good one.

" In this City is a large Hoſpital, " which I viſited attentively. It is nei- " ther well built nor under good regu- " lation and government, nor is the " practice exemplary; and indeed I ſaw " none that pleaſed me in *Italy* either " in conſtruction or otherwiſe. The " bedſteads are made of iron, that they " may not harbour bugs; it is the only " thing worth notice in this houſe, " which is neither properly ventilated " nor kept clean.

Of the expedition for the bombardment of Naples.

" I ſuppoſe I could not omit acquaint- " ing you among other occurrences in " the courſe of the war, with my going " upon the expedition intended for the " bombardment of *Naples*; of which ſcene " of deſtruction the Neapolitans have " particular reaſon to be horribly afraid, " as the houſes in general are flat-roofed " and much expoſed. When the mor- " tars were elevated and ready to play, " waiting only for the ſignal, in con- " junction with canonading, a Grandee " came on board our Commodore's Ship,

" and acceded to articles, which were " ſoon after broken; ſo was this grand " deſign fruſtrated.

Of the proſpect of Naples from the Sea.

" I very much wiſhed for the oppor- " tunity of viſiting this famous City, " which makes the moſt ſplendid and " magnificent appearance to the ſea of " any in the world, the ſuperb buil- " dings gradually riſing to a ſtupendous " height in the form of a creſcent like " an amphitheatre from the ſhore, which " I could deſcry with my glaſſes; and " really I could not view ſuch a delight- " ful place, and think of its impending " devaſtation, without having my mind " filled with concern, tho' in a ſtate of " hoſtility: and the inhabitants were " then threatened with an eruption from " Mount Veſuvius, &c. Here I ſaw " flames proceeding from the Volcano at " Stromboli.

" The plan I hinted to you in a for- " mer letter, which I purpoſed to follow " upon the concluſion of the war, was, " firſt to attend a due time in *London* to " every thing relative to our profeſſion

" as I did; and conclude my long pere-
" grination with an excurſion to *Paris*.
" In conſequence of this reſolution, I
" embarked on board a ſmall ſhip in the
" *Thames* bound for *Havre de Grace*, in-
" tending to viſit the celebrated *Monſ.*
" *Le Cat* Surgeon to the Hôtel-Dieu
" at *Rouen* in *Normandy* in my way to
" *Paris*.

Of being in the moſt emminent danger of Shipwreck in the Britiſh channel.

" Neither our Ship nor Mariners were
" of the beſt kind, and ſoon after we got
" into the Channel a moſt violent ſtorm
" aroſe, proving of long duration, and I
" never thought myſelf in near ſo much
" danger but once before, which was in
" the Gulph of Lyons. I happened,
" from long experience, to be well ac-
" quainted with what was neceſſary to
" be done for our preſervation in this
" diſtreſs, and wrought truly for my life,
" which animated the Mariners to do
" their duty and not deſpair; by which
" means, after very great fatigue and
" difficulty, we gained the deſtined port.

" As ſoon as I recovered from my late " fatigue, I went from *Havre de Grace* " directly to *Rouen*, where I was received " with great politeneſs and civility by " *Monſ. Le Cat*, with whom I ſtaid ſome " days. He ſhewed me many anatomi- " cal and other curioſities, but what " pleaſed me moſt of all was the neat- " neſs, with the good government and " practice of the Hoſpital where he pre- " ſided, who is an excellent Anatomiſt, " Surgeon, and Operator. His merit has " been diſtinguiſhed by having a Doc- " tor's Degree conferred upon him, and " he has eſtabliſhed an Academy in his " own Houſe, to which many Students " reſort. Few have made themſelves ſo " conſpicuous in reſpect to literature and " the ſciences, as well as in his profeſ- " ſion, as he has done; which his pub- " lications upon various ſubjects evince.

The character of Monſ. Le Cat M. D. C. Surgeon-Major of the Hôtel-Dieu at Rouen.

" Upon my departure from *Rouen*, " which was with no ſmall regret, I " proceeded to *Paris* up the *River Seyne*, " in a Barge well accommodated. This " River

Of the pleaſant paſſage up the River Seyne from Rouen to Paris.

" River in its courſe forms many beau-
" tiful little Iſlands, and the adjacent
" Country on each ſide of it being de-
" lightfully pictureſque, made the paſ-
" ſage very agreeable.

" I have now reſided at *Paris* a conſi-
" derable time, cloſely engaged in pur-
" ſuits for farther improvement in my
" profeſſion, which were the motives
" that brought me hither.

" I find that Surgery here is ſtill more
" regarded than Phyſic, tho' many emi-
" nent Phyſicians are now to be found in
" this fine City, where arts and ſciences
" are cultivated and flouriſh under Royal
" Patronage. *

Surgery ſtill in more repute at Paris than Phyſic.

" The

* For ſome centuries great contentions and animoſi-ties were kept up ſucceſſively from age to age, between the Phyſicians and Surgeons at *Paris* as fully appear in the *Hiſtorie de l' Origine & des Progres de la Chirurgie en France*, publiſhed upon the Eſtabliſhment of the Roy-al Academy of Surgery at Paris.

"The Surgeons are excellent and dex-
"terous Operators, and in general men
"of learning; but I cannot approve their
"practice of applying to the wounds
"immediately after amputations, &c.
"*Eau de vie*, i. e. *Brandy*, as ardent spi-
"rits obstruct digestion; and from this
"application I have observed bad conse-
"quences. †

An evident error in practice of the French Surgeons.

"The *Hôtel-Dieu*, the largest, and,
"perhaps, the worst built and governed
"Hospital in Europe, is situated near
"the centre of this great and populous
"City; into it are annually admitted
"about 20,000 patients, out of which at
"least a sixth part generally dies. It is
"not

† In the last sixteen amputations which I performed, dressing the stumps in the plain, easy simple manner described in my Cases and Remarks in Surgery, I did not lose one patient; and in general no threatning symptoms supervened. Since my infirmities obliged me to desist from the operative part of Surgery, I have been concerned in many such operations, wherein that treatment was attended with the same happy success. These considerations make me think highly of the method, which I have strongly recommended to my Brethren.

" not to be wondered that there ſhould be " ſuch mortality, conſidering what num- " bers are crowded together in bad wards, " and often four or more in one bad bed; " whence the air they breathe muſt be " corrupted to ſuch a degree, by effluvia " from their morbid bodies, as to prove " very deſtructive, and in a manner peſ- " tilential. ‡

The cauſe of the great mortality of the patients in th Hôtel Dieu at Paris.

" It is quite otherwiſe in the *Hoſpital* " *de la Charité*, where I chiefly attend; " here not more than about one in twen- " ty dies. This is well ventilated, kept " neat and clean and every thing in good " order, under the regulation and ma- " nagement

The Hoſpital de la Charité at Paris much commended.

‡ This Hoſpital having lately been burnt, may be conſidered as an happy accident; for probably the King of France will have the inconveniencies, very juſtly complained of, remedied in rebuilding it, which will well recompence the loſs by preſerving the lives of his poor ſubjects.

I have been credibly informed, that the largeſt and moſt magnificent ſtructure for an Hoſpital in Europe is built or building at Liſbon, upon a plan drawn by Mr. Carr a famous architect at York; for which the King of Portugal rewarded him with princely liberality.

Character of Monſ. Faget, Surgeon to the Hoſpital de la Charité.

" nagement principally of *Monſ. Fa-*
" *get*, a Surgeon of great eminence, and
" a very humane, well bred, polite Gen-
" tleman: and ſorry I am to tell you that
" is not the character of Monſ. *B----u*,
" ſenior Surgeon of the *Hôtel-Dieu*; he
" is moroſe and ſeems to want the neceſ-
" ſary feelings of humanity.

" I viſit this Hoſpital only upon par-
" ticular occaſions, for many reaſons,
" eſpecially on account of the multitude
" of Barbers Garcons who flock hither;
" making the attendance very diſagree-
" able, as well as the very early hour at
" which the Surgeons here do their bu-
" ſineſs.

Two other Hoſpitals under good regulations with the Surgeons belonging thereto.

" Here are two other well regulated
" Hoſpitals, which I frequently viſit; in
" one of them the great *Monſ. Morand*
" preſides; in the other *Monſ. Louis* is
" Surgeon, a young man of a very pro-
" miſing genius, whoſe courſe of opera-
" tions I now attend. This has given
" me a fair opportunity of mentioning to
" him

" him the uſe of your Retracter and ſuc-
" ceſsful method of Amputation above
" the knee, in order to prevent a projec-
" tion of the end of the bone to which
" he adverted. *

" I now alſo diligently attended the
" public lectures at *St. Côme*, given by
" *Monſ. Puzos*, upon Midwifery and
" ſome diſeaſes peculiar to women, in
" the moſt judicious manner.

Of the lectures given at St. Côme by M. Puzos and his character.

" I am

* I have had ample and ſatisfactory experience of this method for more than 30 years in patients of my own and other Surgeons, to convince me of the utility and advantage of it in preventing a conical ſtump.—See my Caſes and Remarks in Surgery relative to Amputations, Edition II.

Doctor Kirkland of Aſhby de la Zouch in Leiceſterſhire, ſaid in a letter to me lately. " I have had oppor-
" tunities of ſhewing ſeveral Surgeons in this and the
" neighbouring county, your method of amputating above
" the knee to prevent the inconvenience of a conical
" ſtump, with which they are very much pleaſed.—And I have the pleaſure to obſerve the like advantage from this practice in the Norfolk and Norwich Hoſpital, where Mr. White's improved method of amputating the leg with the flap promiſes ſucceſs.

" I am very happy in being perſonally " acquainted with this eminent man. I " have taken down the heads of his lec- " tures in writing intending to put them " into ſome better order at my leiſure " (having now much upon my hands) to " ſhew you when I have the pleaſure of " paying my reſpects to you in Norfolk. " In Midwifery, I think, he excells " *Monſ. Gregoire*, who has long been a " celebrated teacher of this art at *Paris*, " whoſe lectures I have alſo attended. †

† Since the death of *Monſ. Puzos* his valuable Works have been publiſhed in Quarto, by *Monſ. Moriſot Deſlandes D. R. de la Faculte de Medecine de Paris*; in which are contained three excellent Diſſertations concerning Depoſitions of milk in lying-in women, and the great ſwellings often attending their thighs and legs in that ſituation, reſembling thoſe of an anaſarcous nature, which have not been conſidered ſufficiently, by any other writer, as far as I can recollect.

Thoſe Surgeons and Accoucheurs who are not acquainted with the French language, have reaſon to wiſh for a good Engliſh tranſlation of this very uſeful practical Book.

Copy

Copy of a letter relative to the treatment of compound fractures, which I have recommended in my Obſervations.

Halifax in Nova-Scotia,
June the 12th, 1768.

DEAR SIR,

" The pleaſure of your acquaintance " in London, and the advantages ſince " received by your publication, make me " moſt heartily congratulate you upon " the reception it very deſervedly meets " with in the world: and, having an " opportunity of writing by a ſhip going " to England, I could not forbear tranſ- " mitting an account of the ſucceſs I " have had lately, in a very bad com- " pound Fracture of the leg, by purſuing " your method, believing ſuch commu- " nication muſt neceſſarily prove agree- " able to you.

A ſoldier,

" A ſoldier, aged about thirty, receiv-
" ved this accident laſt January. I was
" called to him immediately and found
" it neceſſary to dilate the wound and
" ſaw off between two and three inches
" of the whole ſubſtance of the Tibia
" much fractured, and the Fibula was
" fractured obliquely above two inches
" below the fracture of the Tibia.

" The wound was dreſſed as you di-
" rect in your Obſervations; the whole
" limb was wrapped up in a poultice,
" extended upon a pillow, uſing the
" tailed bandage and a ſtiff paper caſe,
" with the aſſiſtance alſo of junks, in
" order to keep it ſtrait and more ſteady.

" By the common treatment of the
" wound it was perfectly cicatrized in
" three months, and now, about five
" months ſince the accident, the callus
" is perfectly oſſified, the man in good
" health, the limb uſeful and well ſhap-
" ed and but very little ſhorter than the
" other.

" I was

"I was very attentive in obſerving the "operation and progreſs of nature in "making good this loſs of ſubſtance of "the bone, and before exfoliations were "caſt off from the ends, a portion of the "bone being ſawn off at each end, gra- "nulations appeared like fleſh in the "intermediate ſpace, gradually becom- "ing bone as you have obſerved. *

"The advantages of this practice evi- "dently appear in its ſupport; the free "openings and removal of pointed frag- "ments of the bone at firſt, prevent irri- "tation of the very ſenſible membranous "parts, whence proceed inflammation "and abſceſſes in conſequence thereof: "and it was very pleaſing to others as "well as myſelf, to obſerve what little "complaint the patient made, and how "expeditiouſly the cure was accom- "pliſhed.

* See my Caſes and Remarks in Surgery, Edit. II. Page 285 and ſeq.

"I am perſuaded was this rational "practice general, few limbs would re- "quire amputation on account of ſplin- "tered bones; and happy would it be "indeed, did this method prevail uni- "verſally in the Army and Navy. †

"I am with great reſpect,

"Dear Sir,

"Your much obliged

"humble Servant

"CHARLES HALL.

"Surgeon to the 14th Regiment."

A letter

† When I dwelt in Norwich, I was called into the country by a Surgeon in great buſineſs, expreſsly to aſſiſt in an amputation in conſequence of an accident of this nature; to whom I propoſed and recommended the method here mentioned; he readily aſſented to it, by which means the limb was ſaved, and made perfectly uſeful.—I am fully convinced of the propriety and utility of this treatment of compound fractures, from an uninterrupted ſeries of ſucceſs attending it, having never been obliged to amputate a limb on ſuch an occaſion. See my Caſes and Remarks in Surgery, Edit. II. concerning compound fractures.

A letter concerning a compound Fracture, attended with a profuſe hæmorrhage from the medullary artery.

Shottiſham, *May* 4, 1769.

DEAR SIR,

" I was called two days ago to Mr. " Brewerton's ſon of Hethell, on account " of a compound fracture upon his leg, " attended with a very profuſe hæmorr- " hage. Upon enlarging the wound I " expected to have diſcovered the bleed- " ing veſſel, and ſecured it by needle and " ligature; but it eluding my ſearch, I " ſawed off a portion of the Tibia, which " projected, imagining I ſhould find it " between that and the Fibula; then I " found the blood proceeded with great " impetuoſity from an artery running in " the upper part of the cavity of the " bone. I tried various methods to ſtop

" the blood without effect, only tempo-
" rarily during preſſure upon the end of
" the bone, and have called my friend
" Palgrave to my aſſiſtance. Not ſucceed-
" ing in our endeavours, pray come with
" Mr. Brewerton as ſpeedily as the length
" of the journey and your infirm ſtate of
" health will permit, for we apprehend
" the patient's limb and life to be in
" great danger.

" I am,

" Sir,

" Your much obliged

" humble Servant,

" T. FULCHER.

After

After having conſidered every circumſtance relative to this hæmorrhage, which proceeded from the medullary artery, not only running in the cavity of the Tibia, but being alſo encompaſſed by a diſtinct boney caſe like a quill, as diſcovered with the probe, I propoſed to the conſideration of theſe gentlemen the making two perforations adjoining, from the end of the bone, with a very ſmall crown of a trephine, which I had made on purpoſe ſome years ago to perforate a carious Tibia. They concurred in this method and it was immediately put in practice, and brought the artery in view, which appeared to be nearly the ſize of a crow's quill. After this dry lint alone, with moderate perpendicular preſſure, effectually anſwered the end, without any conſequent bleeding, and the patient has an uſeful limb.

The method by which this hæmorrhage was reſtrained.

In this ſingular caſe, the artery being attached to the diſtinct bony tube, could neither retract nor contract; nor was

A remark worthy notice.

there any ſubſtance to be formed into an eſchar by the actual cautery, or any other application to ſtop the hæmorrhage. ‡

A ſingular Caſe in which the Head of the Os Femoris was ſeparated from the Neck by a fall.

In January 1765, a corpulent gentleman about fifty five years of age, fell off a ladder ſome yards from the ground, upon the great Trochanter, and was immediately deprived totally of the uſe of his limb. More than three months after the accident, I was conſulted with his ſurgeon in ordinary, when I found him upon crutches; but without power or ability in the limb, to ſupport any ſhare of the weight of his body, or bring his foot

‡ I believe this may be conſidered as an unprecedented caſe, having made ſtrict inquiry to this purpoſe of many Surgeons of Hoſpitals, and others in the greateſt practice in different parts of the kingdom, who have aſſured me they never obſerved nor heard of one like it.

foot forward in order to make a ſtep, without pain and difficulty, even with the aſſiſtance of his crutches. Obſerving then a conſiderable ſhortneſs of the limb, with ſuch other circumſtances, and appearances, as generally attend a fracture of the neck of the thigh-bone, I believed that to be the caſe.

After the ſtricteſt examination of the limb, and receiving an accurate relation from the patient, concerning his manner of falling and other circumſtances no doubt remained upon my mind as to the nature of the caſe: however, as two Surgeons of character, who had attentively examined the limb together ſoon after the accident happened, poſitively declared they could diſcover no ſigns of fracture, or diſlocation, and the Surgeon in ordinary now preſent being ſtill of the ſame opinion, I thought it prudent in regard to myſelf, as well as for the greater ſatisfaction of the patient, to propoſe having the caſe circumſtantially drawn up by us and ſent to Mr. Pierce at Bath,

a Surgeon of the greateſt eminence and integrity, who, from his long experience and practice there, I apprehended was the moſt competent judge, both as to the nature of the caſe, as well as to adviſe the moſt probable means of affording relief under the preſent alarming and threatening circumſtances.

This propoſal meeting with the concurrence of the Patient and the Surgeon it was directly purſued: and Mr. Pierce in his anſwer gave his opinion, that it was a fracture of the neck of the bone, adviſing, at the ſame time, what he thought neceſſary to be done till he ſhould be able to bear a journey to Bath, where he expected he might find relief.

Mr. Pierce's opinion.

Upon the gentleman's arrival there, Mr. Pierce confirmed his former opinion concerning the nature of the accident, and alſo gave farther expectation that bathing probably would prove beneficial, but in the event he was diſappointed, according to his following letters to me, which

which is not to be at all wondered at, conſidering the peculiar circumſtances of the caſe, that appeared after the patient's death. *

On account of a bad ſtate of health, which was brought upon this gentleman by a ſedentary, inactive life, the reverſe of what he had been accuſtomed to before this accident, he had recourſe to Bath a third time, but without any hopes now of receiving advantage in reſpect to the debility of his limb, which remained quite uſeleſs; and there he died.

The Surgeon who now attended him, Mr Pierce being dead, was deſired to open the limb, in order to diſcover the nature of the miſchief; which he did in the preſence of his Phyſician and Apothecary, and ſent the head of the bone to his relations in the country, from whom I had it; and the following abſtract

* See Mem. de l' Acad. Roy. de Chirurg. Tom. 4. ſur la Fracture du Col. du Femur, Par. Monſ. Sabatier.

ſtract taken from the narrative ſent with it ſigned by the Phyſician, the Surgeon, and the Apothecary, contains every material circumſtance, relative to the ſtate in which the parts appeared, at the time of the patient's death.

What appeared upon the Diſſection.

See Plate 1, Fig. 1, 2.

After having laid the joint and the adjacent parts open and fairly in view, the neck of the Os Femoris was found ſeparated from the head, in ſomewhat an oblique direction, lying in its acetabulum, with ſome fragments of cartilage broken off from the edge of it, and hanging by ſmall portions of the lacerated capſular ligament. The cartilage which covers the head of the bone, and that which lines the acetabulum were eroded by acrid matter in many places. About four fifths of the broken irregular ſurface of the neck of the bone was forced upwards, and reſted againſt the Os Ilium, where it was reſtrained in ſome meaſure

meaſure from going further, by a bridle from part of that ligament, but more by the reſiſtance of the muſcles. There was no coalition of the ſmall parts of the broken ſurfaces which were in contact, nor the leaſt appearance of callus; in the generation of which probably nature might have been interrupted by keeping the limb in motion, the caſe at firſt not being deemed a fracture, conſequently the patient was put upon crutches too ſoon and encouraged to make uſe of them bearing upon the limb as much as he could, and this of courſe oppoſed the cure, and forced the bone higher up.

Du Verney and Ruyſch, two very eminent Surgeons and Anatomiſts, have been too peremptory, as appears from undoubted more modern authorities, in aſſerting that the head of the Os Femoris is never thrown out of its Acetabulum, unleſs owing to ſome diſeaſe therein, or about the joint. It certainly does require, in general, a much greater force to diſlocate the head of the bone than to fracture

fracture the neck of it, as may be concluded from its weakneſs there and poſition, and conſidering how ſecurely the head is confined in the cavity, by the very ſtrong round ligament, and the joint being encompaſſed with the burſal ligament and many ſtrong muſcles. †

REMARKS

Submitted to the conſideration of my Brethren.

As the muſcles act upon the bones, when their reſiſtance is taken away or diminiſhed in an oblique fracture of the leg, where both bones are broken, and more eſpecially in ſuch a kind of fracture of the thigh, for obvious reaſons, the limb

† See what Mr. Travis an ingenious Surgeon at Scarborough, ſays upon luxations of the thigh in the London Med. Obſervations and Inquiries, Vol. II. and Monſ. Pouteau in his Diſſertation upon this Subject in his Melanges de Chirurgie, who is a Surgeon of great Repute and Merit at Lyons.

limb will conſequently be immediately ſhortened, by the natural contractile power of the muſcles: ‡ and when that action ceaſes and they become quieſcent and inactive, or in a paſſive ſtate, the ſupervening tumefaction of the parts will enlarge their diameters and in proportion increaſe their ſhortneſs, whence it neceſſarily follows, that one end of the bone will be gradually drawn over the other, upon ſome ſuch mechanical principles, as a rope by being wetted will ſhorten and raiſe or draw a great weight.

An indeterminate point to be conſidered.

Hence it appears of great conſequence to endeavour to prevent inflammation and tenſion at firſt, and, after gradually and gently extending the limb to its proper length, and dreſſing it as art directs, to apply ſome eaſy extending machine to counteract that force, without creating pain;

‡ The very learned Doctor Battie, in his Exercitationes de Principiis Animalibus, and the great Roman Profeſſor, Baglivi, in his Diſſertation, De Fibra Motrice, have demonſtratively ſhewn the nature of muſcular Fibres, &c.

pain; continuing the uſe of it till the callus has acquired a ſufficient degree of firmneſs or ſolidity to reſiſt it: but when we happen not to be called before tumefaction, &c. ſupervene, we muſt remove thoſe accidents as ſpeedily as we can, before we proceed in this manner.

In a fracture of the neck of the thigh-bone, beſides ſome well adapted extending machine, it may be found very neceſſary to apply a plaſter-compreſs or ſome other eaſy ſuitable pad of a ſufficient thickneſs upon the part where the bone was thrown to, and have it well confined with a roller artfully turned, in order to aſſiſt in keeping the fractured parts more ſteady and in contact as much as poſſible.

Upon theſe occaſions, and even in a fracture of the neck of the thigh-bone, I would recommend, from ſome experience I have had of its utility, the fracture-box mentioned at the concluſion of the chapter upon fractures, in the ſecond Edition of my Caſes and Remarks in Surgery,

Surgery, till ſome better contrivance ſhall be invented, it being an object worthy the particular conſideration and attention of Surgeons of a mechanical genius. It certainly requires but very little force, in any machine properly and judiciouſly conſtructed and applied to anſwer this purpoſe effectually.

Beſides that I have been mentioning, I have had my opinion aſked, within two or three years, in three caſes wherein the neck of the thigh-bone had been fractured in perſons advanced in years, which had been overlooked for many months; and the patients were all deprived of the uſe of their limbs irrecoverably.

The bones of old people are more compact and brittle than in young, conſequently require leſs force to break them, and more time to reunite them with oſſific matter: and it is certainly not adviſable to diſturb ſuch limbs with a view of preſerving their natural motion, it being better to run the hazard of an Anchyloſis, than no reunion by interrupting nature's operation for that purpoſe.

Mr. Pierce's firſt letter concerning the preceding caſe.

Bath, *Feb.* 15, 1765.

DEAR SIR,

" I have paid that attention to the " Gentleman's caſe which I ſhall ever do " to thoſe commands you favour me " with, and give you my opinion with- " out reſerve. It would be vanity in me " to imagine you could have any other " motive for applying to me, but that of " ſuppoſing my long reſidence here, may " have afforded me opportunities of ſee- " ing almoſt all kinds of bad-joint caſes, " which ſooner or later are brought hi- " ther. From the ſymptoms and circum- " ſtances of the caſe now under conſi- " deration, which you have accurately " deſcribed, I make no doubt of its be- " ing as you apprehend, a fracture of the neck

" neck of the Os Femoris; as the thigh " and knee turning outwards; the limb " being much ſhortened and conſiderably " ſhrunk; the pain felt in the courſe of " the Sartorius Muſcle, which from its " origin and inſertion muſt frequently be " put upon the ſtretch, often cauſing " pain on the inſide juſt below the knee; " and the crepitus which the patient " himſelf has been ſenſible of in moving " the limb.

Symptoms of a fracture of the neck of the Os Femoris.

" This ſort of fracture has been very " often overlooked even by able Sur- " geons, till time has produced ſymp- " toms demonſtrating the fact beyond " diſpute; of which I have ſeen ſeveral " inſtances: and in ſome recent caſes I " have endeavoured to preſerve the na- " tural length of the limb by various " methods, but not to my ſatisfaction.

" In the preſent ſtate of this gentle- " man's caſe, I would recommend the " application of a warm ſtrengthening " plaſter, with a ſtrong bandage and con-

" finement, and to come to Bath when " he is found in a condition to bear the " journey, where, from the great expe- " rience I have had in the efficacy of " our waters in similar cases, I have good " reason to hope he will receive benefit; " and, from my situation, permit me to " say, my good Friend, that, perhaps " more have come under my notice, " than under any person's in this king- " dom; two of them happened by the " power of the muscles, twisting the " neck of the bone asunder, without the " patients falling to the ground; one of " which was the late Duke of Portland, " and his servant caught him before he " fell. The Surgeon who was imme- " diately called on this occasion, pro- " nounced the mischief only a strain, " concluding, from the manner of the " accident happening, that it could be " neither a fracture nor a luxation.

A case where- in the neck of the bone was twisted asunder by the sole pow- er of the muscles.

" The pain increasing and his Grace " being subject to arthritic and rheuma- " tic complaints, the Physician then " consulted

" conſulted was of opinion, as well as " the Surgeon, that ſome ſuch matter " was fallen upon the part.

" He had recourſe to Bath many " months after, and upon ſtrictly ex- " amining the limb then, I found it " about four inches ſhorter than the " other, with an exuberant Callus about " the joint and an Anchyloſis. Here " our noble patient found as much re- " lief as could reaſonably be expected " under ſuch circumſtances, and with a " high heeled ſhoe and two ſticks he " was enabled to walk a little without " much pain.

" The other patient was a gentleman, " of Briſtol about 75 years of age. The " Surgeons concerned, when we met in " conſultation, differed from me in opi- " nion, and would by no means admit " of the caſe being a fracture, for the " reaſon aſſigned in the preceeding caſe: " however, he died a few months after,

Another of a ſimilar nature.

" and the Surgeons opened the part, and
" behaved to me with great candor, con-
" feſſing their miſtake by letter.

" I am much obliged to you for your
" kind wiſhes for my health; but it is by
" no means ſuch as you, and a few ſin-
" cere friends, wiſh me; and I have but
" little hope of amendment at 68; but
" in every ſtate and condition believe me,

" My dear Friend,

" Your's moſt ſincerely,

" and affectionately

" JEREMIAH PIERCE.

Mr.

Mr. Pierce's ſecond Letter upon the ſame occaſion.

Bath *July* the 21ſt, 1765.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

" I know our friendſhip is upon ſuch " a foundation, that you will put a fa- " vourable conſtruction upon any ſeem- " ing neglect; indeed I ſhould have " anſwered your laſt kind letter ſooner " concerning our patient, but was wil- " ling firſt to be able to give you ſome " account to be relied on as to the effect " of our waters, with the probable event " in his caſe.

" Upon ſtrictly examining the limb " when he arrived here, and conſidering " all the ſymptoms you had well de- " ſcribed, I found not the leaſt reaſon to " alter my original opinion. I reſolved

" to proceed with the utmoſt caution,
" as our waters have very active prin-
" ciples, as you found by experience in
" your own caſe, I therefore at firſt per-
" mitted him to uſe only the Croſs-Bath,
" which is the moſt temperate, and
" then but for a ſhort ſpace of time at
" each bathing. As he ſeemed to re-
" ceive from hence ſome benefit, I was
" encouraged, after a few weeks, to ad-
" viſe the uſe of the Queen's and then
" proceed to the King's Bath. Having
" purſued this method a proper time, I
" thought it adviſable to try cold bathing,
" in order to recover the tone or elaſtici-
" ty of the weakened parts, and then I
" recommended ſea-bathing, for which
" purpoſe he went to Yarmouth, and it
" concerns me to tell you that I have
" ſince received letters from him, not
" agreeable to my wiſhes and expectati-
" ons, yet, from what I have obſerved in
" ſuch caſes, am not ſtill without hopes
" of his walking in length of time, with
" an underhand cane and a high heeled
" ſhoe, tho' he muſt inevitably have a
" ſtiff joint.

It was not poſſible to know the true ſtate of this caſe during the patient's life.

" I find

" I find you have taken the reſolution
" to die in harneſs, and may God proſper
" all your undertakings. Without a
" compliment I aſſure you I think the
" whole Faculty obliged to you for your
" publication, which you gave me the
" pleaſure of reading in M. S. and

" I am, my good Friend,

" Yours in all ſincerity, &c.

" JEREMIAH PIERCE."

Explanation of FIGURE 1.

A. The head of the Os Femoris, ſhewing the manner in which it was ſeparated from the neck, partly according to the courſe of the Epiphyſis.

B. The extreme point of the neck of the Os Femoris, deſcribing how far it was thrown up and reſted againſt the Os Iliûm.

C. A portion of the lacerated Capſular-Ligament, which might, in ſome meaſure, reſtrain the bone from being forced farther up.

FIGURE 2.

Shews the head of the bone broken off at the neck as repreſented in Fig. 1. with ſome fragments of cartilage together with bone, ſeparated from the edge of the acetabulum, and hanging by ſmall portions of the capſular ligament 1, 2, 3.

Fig. 1.

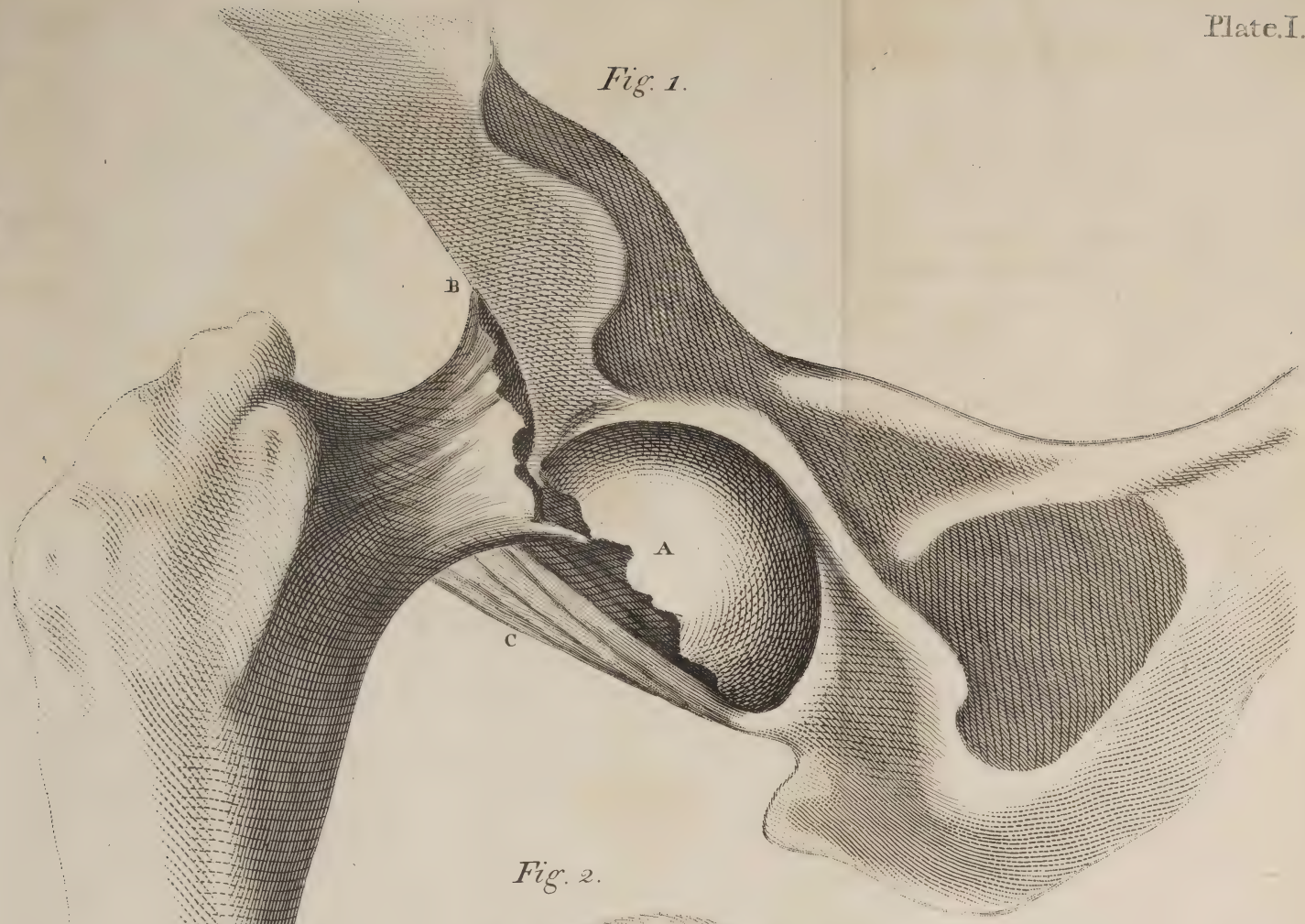


Fig. 2.

Theſe papers were prepared for the preſs before I had an opportunity of reading Mr. Aitken's Treatiſe on Fractures. The uſe of my plain, ſimple Machine which he has partly adopted for extending a fractured Thigh, I have often ſucceſsfully experienced without any ſuch inconvenience enſuing as he apprehends may ariſe from the uſe of it; for the ſuperior fixt point internally reſts againſt the inferior part of the *Os innominatum*, which makes a good *Fulcrum*, where it requires to be well guarded to prevent galling, by an eaſy pad properly adapted: Hence it appears that no ſuch ſtrong preſſure is demanded, as might interrupt the circulation of the blood productive of bad conſequences.

The engraver has indeed juſtly incurred the remark which this Gentleman makes, by having expreſſed too faintly the joints in the pieces which connect the circulars in this machine, to correſpond with the knee-joint; tho' I had as ſtrongly deſcribed them in my ſketch,

as

as in the extending machine appropriated to the Leg, repreſented in the ſame plate, to ſerve the like purpoſe of giving liberty to move the joint of the knee occaſionally.

By the uſe of the Machine and Caſes which I have recommended, I could ſafely change the poſition of the limbs without diſturbing the fractures, as different occaſions required in the cure of them: and by the addition of hooks and eyes to the ſides of the pieces of the Machines, which connect the circulars, the knee-joint may be fixt to any degree of flexure that may be thought neceſſary.

In a fracture either of Leg or Thigh, I always placed a ſmall pillow under the ham for eaſe, giving the joint by that means a little bend.

I am apprehenſive from what I have obſerved, that in ſome caſes, laying the limb ſidewiſe may be attended with inconveniencies; but this point muſt be left

left to the diſcretion of the Surgeon according to circumſtances: however, in compound Fractures, where there is a wound on the outſide, that poſition is impracticable.

When I was in practice, I uſed to keep by me ſtiff paper of different thickneſſes, having ſheet-lead, ſuch as tea is brought home in from the Indies, ſtrongly glued unto it, to prevent its attracting moiſture and loſing its firmneſs, in order to form caſes and ſplints, as the different ſizes of limbs, and other circumſtances ſhould require, which may prove no bad ſubſtitutes to the more ingenious and judicious inventions and contrivances of ſome eminent Surgeons in London, &c. for the uſe of country practitioners, whom I have in view, thinking it no immaterial conſideration.

As to the Bandage, which I have deſcribed upon the great Monſ. Petit's plan, in his Traité des Maladies des Os, Chap. xv. for the Tendo Achillis when ruptured,

tured, or otherwiſe divided, I have alſo experienced its utility upon ſeveral occaſions; but as this ingenious Surgeon very juſtly remarks, the application of it is rather troubleſome, and requires to be made with particular care and attention, to make it ſit eaſy upon the limb: beſides, indeed it may not anſwer the deſign ſo well, as the Machine which he recommends; or that which the late great Profeſſor Monro invented in his own caſe; but then here likewiſe the accommodation of Practitioners in the the country is to be conſidered, where good Mechanics are rarely to be found to procure ſuch contrivances, and this uſeful Bandage can be eaſily provided upon ſuch an emergency.

To anſwer the ſame purpoſe, I have confined one end of a ſtrong ſtrap of ſticking plaſter, of a ſuitable length and breadth, under a circular piece of the ſame about the middle of the ſole of the foot, carrying it over the heel up the leg and

and confining the other end above the calf with another circular plaſter, firſt gently and gradually bringing down the Muſcul. Gaſtrocnem. as far as they will readily yield; giving the limb, at the ſame time, the poſition deſcribed in my Treatiſe on wounds. On the like occaſion I have alſo fixt one ſtrap by the circular about the foot, and another by that above the calf of the leg, paſſing the one through a ſlit in the other, and uſing them as the uniting Bandage; but then two more circulars are requiſite to confine the other ends of the longitudinal ſtraps ſecurely.

Either of theſe methods may effectually anſwer the end, with leſs trouble than the Roller uſed as has been mentioned; and they are obviouſly more practicable than that Bandage, where there is a wound to be dreſſed; then a few turns of a roller deſcribing a figure of 8 about the joint will be ſufficient, over an eaſy compreſs.

In

In fractures of the Patella, I have proceeded, much to my ſatisfaction, upon this principle, with ſtraps of plaſter, in order to reſiſt the muſcular force, and prevent the ſuperior piece of the bone from being too far retracted.

Of an Ovarium, in which were contained many extraordinary appearances.

On March the 6th, 1771, a Gentlewoman conſulted me, when ſhe thought herſelf to be in the 5th month of geſtation with her firſt child. She was of a delicate habit, 25 years of age, and had always been regular in her Catamenia, which appeared early. She gave me an account of her having felt, for ſome years, a tumor on the left ſide of her body, attended with an obtuſe, but never an acute pain, low down and deeply ſituated in the Pelvis, according to her own deſcription, which for ſome time ſhe had been able to bring forward and high up with

She was a very ſenſible intelligent woman.

with her fingers, and apprehended it was now in an increaſing ſtate very conſiderably. She alſo ſaid ſhe had frequent provocation to make urine, always making it in a ſmall quantity, with a degree of pain and difficulty, and had ſometimes been obliged to be relieved by the introduction of a catheter.

On account of her pregnant ſtate I could not diſcover the tumor, with the moſt careful examination, but ſhe ſo clearly deſcribed it, from her attentive remarks and obſervations, that after maturely conſidering every circumſtance, I concluded it was an enlarged Ovarium, which might compreſs the bladder, or that there might be ſome diſeaſe in it, to obſtruct the emiſſion of the urine. This was the opinion I delivered to her huſband, and her Surgeon in ordinary, whom I met in conſultation.

This Surgeon not being an Accoucheur, an eminent one was called to her in the eighth month of geſtation, when ſhe was ſuddenly

ſuddenly alarmed in the night, with a conſiderable diſcharge of the Liquor Amnii, without any previous pain or accident; but, diſcovering no other ſigns of approaching labour, he did nothing, only injoined reſt, and ſhe ſlept quietly the remaining part of the night without an opiate. Next day ſhe ſat up ſeveral hours, having no other ſymptoms than a ſmall diſcharge of water upon motion, and a frequent inclination to make urine, which evacuation was attended as uſual with a little pain and difficulty. On the third day ſhe ventured down ſtairs, appearing rather better, and ſo continued till the 4th day towards evening, when ſhe was ſeized with a rigor and great coldneſs of the extremities, which laſted an hour or two, and then were ſucceeded by a ſevere fever fit, attended with frequent vomiting of a dark coloured bilious matter. In this fever fit ſhe complained of an intenſe heat, attended with pain and tenderneſs, extending all over the Abdomen, for which no means that the Surgeon could think of afforded any relief; ſhe grew worſe in all reſpects without any ſigns of being delivered,

and

and he thought it not advisable to attempt delivering her entirely by force under these circumstances, fearing she might actually expire even in the operation. On the 7th day in the morning the pain and heat were greatly abated, but she had a very languid, intermitting pulse, denoting a mortification, in which it was apprehended the inflammation might terminate; soon after she became delirious, and died about six in the evening of that day.

The morning after her death, her body was opened, according to her own desire, and both the Surgeons were concerned in the dissection.

What appeared upon the dissection.

They found the Uterus mortified on the left side, with a Fœtus of a natural size and form contained in it, which they thought had not been dead many days, and nothing relative to that appeared preternatural. The Ovarium on that side was as large as a melon and of an oval figure, beginning also to be mortified. By opening its tunic, which resembled a thick leather bag, there

iſſued out a full quart of an atheromatous matter, in the middle of which was lodged a lump about the bigneſs of a turkey's egg, in ſubſtance like hog's lard, which melted as eaſily and was as inoffenſive; it had a great quantity of brown hair intermixt with it, moſt in the middle, as appeared upon cutting through it. This ſubſtance was not inveloped in a diſtinct membrane, but was covered all over with hair, twiſted and curled in a very wonderful manner, ſome of which exceeded a foot in length, and had evidently bulbous roots when viewed with a glaſs; ſome took root in the centre, others in different depths in this ſubſtance from the ſurface of it, as was diſcovered by ſections in different directions, examined with the utmoſt attention; and from the inferior part proceeded a large, long ſtring or rope of hair twiſted together ſomething like an Elf's Lock or the Plica Polonica. At the lower part of the Ovarium, were found two diſtinct irregular bones, in the lowermoſt of which was fixt a perfect inciſive tooth, which proceeded

proceeded through that bone into a very thick membranous ſocket, formed between the coats of the Ovarium, with an imperfect tooth adjoining to it; and at a little diſtance from this bone, there was, in ſuch another membranous ſocket, a complete canine tooth.

The Surgeons by whom I was favoured with the parts and the ſubſtance of this narrative told me they thought the Ovarium on the other ſide was preternaturally ſmall; but that muſt be conſidered a doubtful point, as the ſize of theſe bodies in their natural ſtate is very variable and indeterminate.

They took no notice of the Tub. Fallopian. or other uterine appendages; indeed they wanted time to perform the diſſection, and to examine the parts with that accuracy which ſuch a curious ſub-

ject demanded, which ſeems unprecedented in ſome reſpects. *

The bladder was much contracted, but the liver and all the other abdominal viſcera appeared in their natural ſtate.

I had a long converſation with the Surgeons upon this ſubject, in order to obtain all the information I poſſibly could.

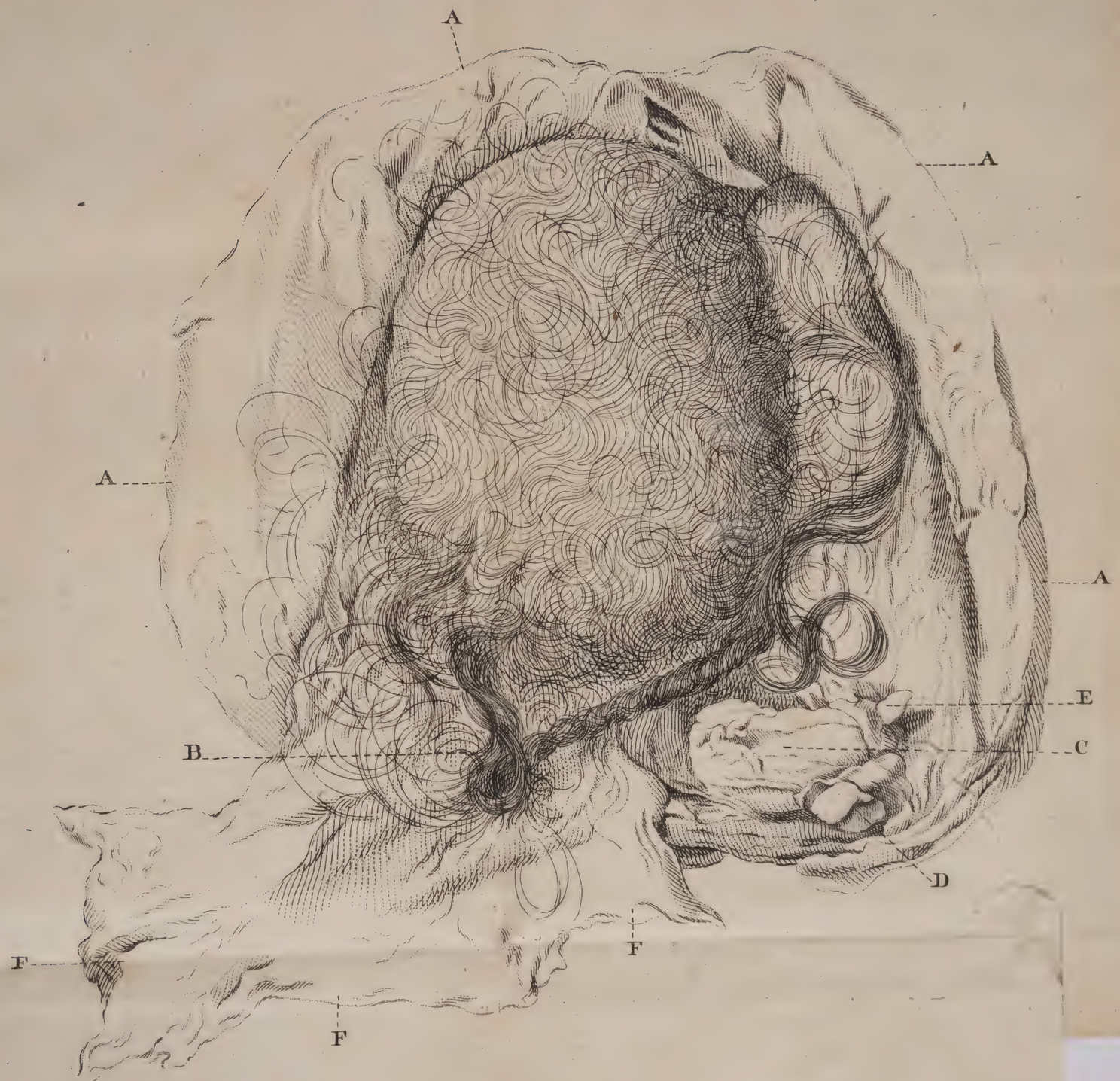
Explanation

* See Lowthorp's Abridgment of the Philos. Trans. Edit. iii. Vol. 3. and Jones's Abridgment of the ſame Vol. 5. Pag. 295 and ſeq.—The learned Doctor Tyſon and Diemerbroeck in their works have alſo ſomething relative to the ſubject.

Cornelius Stalpart Vander Wiel expreſsly ſays, that he, his Brother and another Surgeon, upon opening the body of a Girl of 15 years of age at the Hague, in the year 1682, found an Ovarium diſtended to the ſize of a gooſe's egg, with ſhort hair upon it, and a ſmall bone in it, without mentioning other circumſtances.

Palfyn, in his Deſcription anatomique des partes de la femme qui ſervent a la generation, has Swammerdam's fine and accurate plate, repreſenting the Uterus and its appendages, dedicated to the Noble Tulpius.——Vide etiam Swammerdami notas in prodromum D. J. Van Horne Tract. de partibus generationis, et Regnerum De Graaf de organis generationi inſervientibus.

Plaſſonus an eminent Profeſſor of Anatomy at Padua, and another as conſiderable at Bologna, wrote learnedly more than a century ago, the one de partibus generationis utriuſque ſexus, and the other de Fœtu humano.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Explanation of PLATE 2.

The Drawing of which was accurately taken under my own inſpection.

A. A. A. A. The bag reſembling leather, which was the proper tunic of the Ovarium greatly thickened, laid open its whole length to ſhew more clearly the ſubſtance therein contained, which was like hog's lard, covered all over with hair, curled and ſtragling beyond its edge, &c.

B. A long ſtring or rope of hair ſomewhat reſembling an Elf's Lock, or the Plica Polonica.

C. A bone having the perioſteum ſeparated from it the whole length.

D. Another bone having a perfect inciſive tooth paſſing through it into a thick membranous ſocket between the coats of the Ovarium, with an imperfect one adjoining to the perfect one,

E. A perfect canine tooth, at a little diſtance from this bone, in ſuch a kind of membranous ſocket, without any bone.

F. F. F. The part of the Ovarium by which it was attached to the Uterus.

Of unprecedented appearances upon the Cuticula.

In September, 1768, Mr. William Wright of Saham-Tony in the County of Norfolk Attorney at Law, conſulted me upon another occaſion, at the Rev. Mr. Parrott's, who is Rector of the Pariſh, and I then took a narrative of the following extraordinary caſe from himſelf.

He is in the 55th year of his age, his conſtitution rather weak and lax but had enjoyed throughout his life, a tolerable good ſtate of health in general, till about ten years ago, when he was firſt ſeized, and often ſince, with ſuch a peculiar kind of fever, that none of the medical Gentlemen of great experience, who were concerned for him at different times, knew by what name to characterize it. He is very ſuſceptible of effects proceeding

ing from the alteration of the ſtate of the air, and the diſeaſe has ſometimes returned twice in a year attended with the ſame ſymptoms and conſequences, upon having perſpiration ſuddenly obſtructed, and he obſerves it generally comes on under that circumſtance.

Beſides the common febrile ſymptoms upon the invaſion of the diſeaſe, his ſkin itches univerſally, more eſpecially at the joints, and the itching is ſoon followed by ſmall red ſpots; then his fingers become ſtiff, hard, and painful at the ends and roots of the nails, where, in about 24 hours after, the cuticle begins to ſeparate from the cutis, and in ten or twelve days this ſeparation becomes general from head to foot; and he has many times turned the cuticle off completely from the wriſts to his fingers ends like gloves, and alſo from his feet in the the ſame manner to the ends of his toes. His nails ſhoot from their roots gradually, as the new ones grow, in about ſix months, and the pain there decreaſes as

the ſeparation of the cuticle advances; it riſes in the palms of his hands and ſoles of his feet like bliſters, but has no fluid under it; every where when it comes off it leaves the ſkin for ſome days exquiſitely ſenſible.

Sometimes upon catching cold before he has been quite recovered, he has relapſed and had a ſecond ſeparation directly of the cuticle from the cutis; but then indeed ſo thin as to appear only like ſcurf, which ſhews the quick renewal of this part. †

When I ſaw him he had not had a violent return of this diſorder ſince the year 1764, but ſeveral times in a ſlight degree,

† Monſ. St. André an accurate Anatomiſt in his time, ſaid he had diſcovered veſſels with his injections in the cuticle, and told a Friend of mine ſo; but did not demonſtrate what he aſſerted to the ſatisfaction of others; and, I believe that curious Obſerver of nature, Leeuwenhoeck, never pretended to ſuch a diſcovery even by his glaſſes.

degree, bringing off the cuticle like ſcurf, proceeding from the cauſe which has been aſſigned.

Soon after I ſaw him, I had a long converſation on this ſubject with Mr. Swallow, a Surgeon of character at Watton, who confirmed this hiſtory, having frequently attended the patient and obſerved all the circumſtances related. He has one of theſe cuticular gloves in his poſſeſſion, and Mr. Wright brought a pair in his pocket when he came to me, and gave me one of them; ſaying, he had given away ſeveral to other perſons to ſatisfy their curioſity; but tho' the matter of fact was ſo well authenticated, ſome people would not give credit to it.

When my very good friend Mr. Warner, F. R. S. Surgeon to Guy's Hoſpital, favoured me with a viſit at my houſe in the year 1769, he aſked me to let him have this curious glove, with a ſhort hiſtory of the caſe, and both were preſented by him to the R. S. and he acquainted me

me by letter ſoon after, that the ſingularity of the caſe had determined the Society to have an engraving of the glove, to be publiſhed with the hiſtory of the caſe in their Tranſactions, it appearing quite unprecedented. May not the ſeparation of the Cuticle be cauſed by ſome febrile matter thrown off, affecting the Rete mucoſum. ‡

Hiſtory of an univerſal Emphyſema, communicated to me by an eminent Surgeon of my acquaintance, who made minutes of the caſe at the time when the accident happened, on account of its ſingularity.

A lad about 14 years of age driving a cart through a gateway, and the horſes turning quick, threw him with great violence againſt an iron catch in the gate-poſt, between the 4th and 5th ribs; by which means the intercoſtal muſcles and the pleura were lacerated, yet without making a wound through the ſkin.

I was

‡ At Mr. Warner's requeſt on my behalf, the Society favoured me with the uſe of their Plate on this occaſion.

J. Myndé sc.

I was called to him 3 or 4 hours after the accident happened, and found him in a moſt deplorable condition indeed, apparently ready to expire. By the ſtricteſt examination I cou'd not diſcover a fractured rib, whence I apprehended ſome air-veſſels might be ruptured in the lungs, and that air probably might proceed from thence through the lacerations of the pleura and intercoſtal muſcles, and, being ſtopped by the ſkin, was diffuſed in the cellular membrane throughout the whole body quite from head to foot, which was the condition I found him in, after this ſhort ſpace of time. His face was ſo inflated that his eyes were entirely cloſed; his noſe could ſcarce be perceived, which was almoſt level with his cheeks.

A very rational method propoſed, but rejected by the patient's relations.

Under theſe circumſtances I propoſed making an opening into the thorax immediately, as the moſt adviſable and rational ſtep to be taken; but his friends obſtinately oppoſed all the arguments I could think of, to ſhew the propriety of it, even that the preſervation of his life depended

depended upon it in all appearance. I was ſuffered now to perform no other operation than bleeding, which I could not do, till I had preſſed up the air towards the ſhoulder and alſo downwards, confining it there with bands, before I put on the ligature in order to bleed him; without which precaution, I might have thruſt my lancet in almoſt its whole length, and not have reached the vein, had that, by the ligature, been ſufficiently compreſſed. He bled freely, after which I left him and ordered a laxative medicine, an emulſion with ſpermaceti and a pectoral decoction, with the ſtrict obſervance of a proper regimen, &c.

The method at firſt propoſed conſented to, and the conſequences,

I viſited him again next morning and found him evidently worſe in all reſpects, which induced me in the ſtrongeſt terms and more earneſtly, to recommend the opening I at firſt propoſed, which was now conſented to.

Upon making the opening into the Thorax, between the ribs where the injury

jury was received by the catch in the gate-poſt, as ſoon as the knife entered, rarefied air came ruſhing out violently, and a great quantity of a hot, bloody fluid along with it. Having made an ample aperture, I dreſt ſuperficially, in the gentleſt manner and applied an eaſy bandage, directing him to lie on the affected ſide, in order to favour the diſcharge of the extravaſated fluid.

When I viſited my patient next day I found there had been an immenſe diſcharge from the wound, that he breathed eaſier and that the inflation was univerſally much ſubſided. Theſe favourable circumſtances gave me ſome hopes of a happy event; but upon my viſit the day following, the ſcene was changed, the diſcharge was very fœtid, his pulſe and breathing very bad, which deſtroyed all the hopes I entertained the day before, and the next day he died.

Upon

Upon examining the parts after death a lacerated wound was discovered in the lungs, but no fractured rib. *

We drew up this case together as it now stands from the Surgeon's minutes.

A case in which air contained in the cavity of the Thorax, produced symptoms of an Empyema.

I was consulted on this occasion, with a Physician and a Surgeon in the county of Suffolk. The patient was about forty years of age, and in consequence of peripneumonic symptoms his lungs became ulcerated, and he had long expectorated purulent matter, attended with great difficulty of breathing; he had also a constant pain in his left side of small extent;

* See an extraordinary case of an Emphysema in the London Med. Observations and Inquiries, communicated by Doctor Hunter, occasioned by a fractured rib, and cured in the manner he directed.

tent; and whenever he turned himſelf from one ſide to the other, he was very ſenſible of the motion of ſome fluid, which fluctuation was heard as well as felt by himſelf, and ſometimes alſo heard by thoſe about him.

From theſe ſymptoms and conſiderations we were unanimouſly of opinion, that matter floated upon the Diaphragm, making it adviſable to perform the operation for an Empyema, particularly on account of the fixt pain, as has been mentioned, which was often to a very great degree, eſpecially when he coughed. On making the inciſion directly upon the painful part, which was between the 6th and 7th ribs, as ſoon as the knife entered the cavity of the Thorax, rarified air, and nothing elſe, came ruſhing out, with an audible, ſibilous noiſe which was heard by all of us. Immediately after this operation, tho' no purulent matter was diſcharged, yet he could lie upon either ſide, without

increaſe

increaſe of pain or difficulty of breathing, which he could not do before; however, all things conſidered, we could not doubt of the caſe ending in a Maraſmus.

In this caſe air muſt eſcape through ſome aperture in the lungs, by the air-veſſels, into the cavity of the Thorax, and there rarify, producing the complaints, which we aſcribed, before the operation, to purulent matter therein contained.

The patient lived ſeveral months after the operation, without having any return of pain or ſenſation of a fluctuating fluid as before; nor was there the leaſt appearance of matter proceeding from the lungs or cavity of the Thorax through the wound, which was kept open ſeveral weeks, in expectation of ſuch a diſcharge.

The aperture in the lungs, which we believed admitted the air to paſs into the cavity, certainly cloſed, as he never after the

the operation, even when the wound was perfectly healed, had any return of symptoms, that evidently proceeded from the rarefaction of the air in the Thorax, according to what we have observed.

Leave could not be obtained to investigate this matter, after the patient's death.

At the time when the operation was performed, we could with our fingers feel some hard tubercles upon the lungs, but found very little adhesion of them to the pleura within reach of the finger. †

† See what is mentioned concerning air being contained in the Thorax, communicated by Mr. Hewson, in the London Med. Observations and Inquiries, Vol. III. Vid. Boneti Anatom. practic. Lib. II. Sect. 1. Observat. 54. & Schol.

Of a very large encyſted lymphatic tumor, which was happily extirpated at the Heckingham-Houſe of Induſtry in the County of Norfolk.

In November, 1768, I attended a conſultation at this Houſe, by the expreſs deſire of the Governors and the Surgeons, in order to conſider of the propriety or impropriety of performing an operation on this occaſion, which had been deemed extremely dangerous by ſeveral Surgeons, before the patient was admitted into the Houſe.

She was about 35 years of age and not of a good habit. About three years before, after a lying-in, ſhe took notice of a ſmall tumour on the right ſide of her body towards the inguen, which raiſed a ſuſpicion of its being a Hernia at firſt. It gradually increaſed and extended downwards, adherring to the Labium Pudendi

Pudendi and Anus, turning about in a curve, having a figure and form much reſembling the ſtomach, which ended upon the middle of the hip.

Our conſultation was very agreeable, conſiſting of four Surgeons beſides myſelf. We looked upon it as an encyſted tumor of the lymphatic kind, degenerating into a cancerous ſtate. After ſtrict examination of the parts, and deliberately conſidering every circumſtance, we thought it might be extirpated with ſafety, as it was not yet fixt to the ſubjacent parts; but were unanimouſly of opinion, that the cure of the wound was very precarious: however, as there was no proſpect of preſerving her life or affording her relief, by any other means, the operation was approved, and then judiciouſly performed, by Mr. Lewis a Surgeon of eminence at Bungay in Suffolk, ſhe having been duly prepared for it, in caſe it ſhould be thought adviſable in our conſultation.

A remark worthy of attention.

Great care was taken to ſecure the arteries, by needle and ligature, as the operator proceeded carefully diſſecting, by which precautions the effuſion of blood was but ſmall, conſidering the ſize and extent of the tumor, which weighed between five and ſix pounds.

No ill accident happened in, or in conſequence of, the operation; the wound digeſted and healed kindly, and the patient left the houſe with it perfectly cicatrized in about ten weeks, as Mr. Lewis informed me; tho' not free from other complaints, and among the reſt ſhe had a Bronchocele, which did not paſs unnoticed in our conſultation.

I was concerned the year before in an operation of the ſame kind. The tumor was ſituated upon a woman's thigh, in conſequence of an accident received ten years before. It extended from a few inches above her knee near to her body, and meaſured full a yard in circumference.

rence. By the ſame precautions that have been mentioned, we did not here loſe more than a pound of blood in the operation: and in both caſes, by a wary diſſection, the cyſts were not opened.

This tumor weighed between twelve and thirteen pounds; the contents of it were inſpiſſated lymph of the conſiſtence of brains, and when contained in the cyſt much reſembled the brain in the Dura Mater. Dr. Hay of Ipſwich and Dr. D' Urban of Haleſworth were preſent at this operation.

The cicatrix in this caſe remained firm more than a year, and our patient walked about her buſineſs; then, upon having a feveriſh diſorder, it broke out in the upper part of it, and became a cancerous ulcer, throwing out large fungous excreſcences before ſhe died, as I was informed by the Surgeon concerned for her.

In both these cases the operation should have been performed much sooner. ‡

Of Bronchoceles.

I have had my opinion asked in a great number of tumors of this kind; and cannot recollect an instance of their endangering life, even when enlarged to a very great size.

It is said, that in some parts of this kingdom, there are persons who undertake to cure this disease; and some years ago I had a letter upon this subject from a Surgeon of character at Coventry, written in a very modest and sensible manner, wherein he acquainted me he had sometimes succeeded: But, for my own part, I must ingenuously confess, the various methods I have tried to disperse these

‡ See Monf. Quesnay's Mem. sur les Vices des Humeurs relative to this subject, prefixt to the first Vol. of the Mem. de l' Acad. Roy. de Cirurgie.

theſe ſwellings, even in a recent ſtate and moderate ſize, have been defeated; * and I never durſt venture to attempt the cure by exciſion, on account of the vicinity of the large blood-veſſels.

History to diſcourage excision.

I was once indeed prevailed upon to be preſent at ſuch an operation, where the tumor was of a very large ſize, and the patient's blood in a thin, depauperated ſtate.

Before I went the operation was reſolved upon, in a numerous conſultation, and all I could do was to ſhew my fears and apprehenſions of what would probably attend it, declaring, that were it a patient of mine I would not attempt it.

The Surgeon was a good and intrepid operator; but before he had half finiſhed the operation, there was ſuch an effuſion

* I have talked with many eminent Hoſpital Surgeons upon this Subject, and they expreſs themſelves in the ſame manner, who have the beſt opportunities of improving our art, and making uſeful diſcoveries.

blood, as obliged him to desist, and turn his whole attention to restraining the hæmorrhage, or, in the opinion of all present, the patient would have sunk and died under his hands. She died in less than a week and, I was informed, the blood was never totally stopt. The unhappy event naturally brought the reputation of all the Surgeons concerned in question.

Another History to the same purpose.

I remember another case of this kind, in which my opininon was asked jointly with that of an excellent Surgeon in the country, my particular Friend, † and the operation was performed against our judgment, by one of the ablest Surgeons and most dexterous operators in London, which was very near ending in a fatal hæmorrhage. The young Lady's life was preserved, only by having a succession of persons to keep a constant pressure upon the bleeding vessels day and night for near a week with their fingers upon

† Mr. Cooper late of Bungay in Suffolk.

upon proper compreſſes, after the Operator had been repeatedly diſappointed in the uſe of the needle and ligature, &c. as his pupil aſſured me who attended this caſe.

I may here add a third ſimilar caſe, wherein I was conſulted, in which the Surgeon concerned diſcovered an earneſt deſire to attempt extirpation; but I as earneſtly urged the arguments I have aſſigned, which diſſuaded him from ſo dangerous an operation.

This diſeaſe is very frequent in Swiſſerland, and in the neighbourhood of the Alps, which made Juvenal ſay,

Quis tumidum guttur miratur in Alpibus? ‡

A caſe

‡ I have been told by Gentlemen who have been in Swiſſerland, that this tumor in the throat, called *Goutiere*, is far from being there looked upon as a perſonal deformity.

A caſe wherein matter had been confined in the Maxillary ſinus, attended with ſome uncommon circumſtances.

Some years ago I was conſulted in this caſe, with a Phyſician and two Surgeons, for a Gentleman about 60 years of age. This complaint proceeded from a bad fever, and his health in general was much impaired. The ſymptoms evidently declared the nature of the diſeaſe; and the matter had forced its way thro' one of the noſtrils. After conſidering the circumſtances, we agreed to make an opening forthwith, in the uſual manner, into the Sinus, for the free diſcharge of the matter.

The patient had loſt all his teeth in this part of the jaw-bone, the ſockets of which were filled with a boney ſubſtance, and by ſtrict examination we found the bone carious. Upon the eligible

gible part for making the perforation he could not bear an inſtrument for that purpoſe, without cauſing exquiſite pain and obliging him to throw his head backwards violently, in a convulſive manner. This prevented our proceeding in the operation as intended, and determined us to cut down to the bone on the ſide with the point of a knife, and bore into the Sinus with a gimblet; which method was eaſily effected, and anſwered the end, tho' not quite ſo well as the other would have done, in giving a diſcharge to the matter, with the opportunity of uſing injections, &c. as the rules of Surgery directed. The opening was preſerved, ſometimes with a leaden canula well adapted to it with ears, and ſometimes with a piece of bougie, having a ligature affixed to it to prevent its ſlipping into the cavity, and in a reaſonable time,

time, by the assistance of the Physician's prescriptions, the patient recovered a good state of health.*

Of a tumor upon the region of the stomach, which in length of time burst of itself, and thro' the opening the aliment passed, the patient living and walking abroad some months after.

In May 1768, Mr. Aldrich a Surgeon at Halesworth desired me to visit with him, Mrs. Tovell of Wenhaston, about 60 years of Age, of a very thin and delicate habit.

More

* This case occurred before the fourth Vol. of the Mem. de l' Acad. Roy. de Chirurgie was published at Paris, in which mention is made of one treated in the like manner, having a plate annexed describing the operation, by Monsr. Bordenave in his Observations sur les Maladies du Sinus Maxillaire.

Since this I have been concerned in another case of this nature, which had been of 5 years standing, where there was a large opening into the nose, with an extensive caries of the bones; which was perfectly cured by the treatment described in my Observations, Edit. II. by making an opening into the Sinus the extent of the *Alveoli* of three teeth, cutting away their partitions immediately after extracting the teeth.

More than 20 years before, in conſequence of a ſlight external injury, which was at firſt diſregarded, ſhe was ſubject to tranſient pains in the epigaſtric region, never violent nor confined to one ſpot, but moſtly towards the left ſide. In this ſtate ſhe remained about ten years, when ſhe was ſeized with a violent fever, in which the pains increaſed, and a ſmall flat tumor appeared over the bottom of her ſtomach, without any external inflammation, or throbbing; the pain upon preſſure was not augmented, nor had ſhe any complaint in her ſtomach at this time.

Tho' the tumor did not ſubſide when the fever went off, yet ſhe then recovered her former ſtate of health, rather valetudinary; and thus ſhe continued 10 years longer, having very little more

uneaſineſs

uneaſineſs in the tumefied part than in the abdomen in general, where ſhe had before complained at times; but never to any great degree. Now a fever ariſing upon catching cold, the tumor enlarged and inflamed, ſtill was attended with but little pain; however, in a few days it burſt open, diſcharging ſome of the aliment that was in her ſtomach outwardly, there being an adheſion of it to the *peritonæum*. The next day I viſited her with Mr. Aldrich, and my worthy friend Mr. Lynn of Woodbridge being then with me, he went with us about ſix in the evening. Upon removing the dreſſings, the food ſhe had taken that day for dinner, conſiſting chiefly of Mackarel, came pouring out upon reſpiration, through the ſpontaneous opening now grown pretty wide. We applied Puff-Ball carefully to the aperture and confined it with ſtrips of common plaſter, eaſy compreſs and a flannel bandage, in order to prevent the eſcape of the aliment all we could, deſiring ſhe would make her diet

conſiſt

conſiſt of the ſofteſt and moſt nutrimental things, that would in the eaſieſt manner be converted into nouriſhment; as bread-pudding, gellies, ſago, ſaloop, &c. to be taken often in ſmall quantities to avoid too much diſtention of the ſtomach, injoining reſt in a ſupine poſture for obvious reaſons; and that recourſe ſhould alſo be occaſionally had to nutritive clyſters: however, notwithſtanding theſe injunctions which we ſtrongly urged, when I viſited her again three days after, I found her abroad about her buſineſs as uſual, and then actually feeding her young chickens ſitting upon the ground; for which inconſiderate act I very earneſtly reproved her. She now told me, that but little of what ſhe took came through the opening; that the dreſſings, compreſs and bandage ſat eaſy and anſwered their end very well; that her food agreed with her ſtomach; that ſhe had no ſickneſs, and that ſhe had the benefit of a ſtool naturally every day as ſhe uſed to have.

Before

Before I left Haleſworth, being then at Doctor D'Urban's, I ſaw her dreſt ſeveral times, obſerving no ill appearance in the ulcer, and that but very little aliment paſſed through it. Afterwards I was informed ſhe took a ſufficient quantity of nouriſhment to ſupport her, without loſing fleſh, and that nothing unfavourable occurred in this extraordinary caſe, till the latter end of Auguſt, when, through negligence, ſhe catched cold and a violent fever enſued. After the danger of this fever was apparently over, ſhe relapſed in conſequence of farther indiſcretion and forfeited her life.

What appeared upon diſſection in this caſe.

Doctor D' Urban, who had viſited her alſo, attended the opening of her body with the Surgeon. The liver was conſiderably enlarged and had forced the ſtomach too much to the left ſide; but they obſerved nothing elſe remarkable in the diſſection, only a firm adheſion of the *ſtomach*, *liver*, and *peritonæum*, about the aperture: and it was their opinion, that with her own prudent

prudent care, her days might have been prolonged, had not the ulcer been perfectly healed. The adhesion of the *stomach* to the *Peritonæum* was the evident means of her preservation, upon the rupture of the tumor, by preventing the aliment, &c. from falling into the cavity of the Abdomen. *

Of the singular good effect of Merc. sublim. corrosiv. in a cancerous case.

In June, 1766, a Gentleman's wife of a delicate habit, aged 45, consulted me concerning a most alarming complaint, contracted by inadvertently putting a pipe into her mouth and blowing it clean, immediately after her sister had used it, in sucking down some aliment, that being the only way she was able to take any on account of a cancerous ulcer

* Relative to this case, see in my Treatise on wounds, an account of some of various kinds inflicted on the stomach,

paſſing quite through into the mouth under her lower jaw. She was almoſt inſtantly ſenſible of a twinging near the tip of her tongue, and ſoon after in her lips and moſt parts of her mouth. In a ſhort time her huſband complained of the like ſenſation in his lips, &c. which proceeded only from kiſſing her. †

Various methods were tried firſt at home, then in London and abroad under the ableſt practitioners, but all to no purpoſe, the diſeaſe gaining ground under all of them.

After two years ſhe returned from Bruſſels to England on account of ſome emergent domeſtic affairs, and her huſband went to Paris to conſult the Faculty there.

When ſhe came to me ſhe had deep, ſpreading ulcers in her tongue, ſides of her

† Turner ſays, that Mr. Smith, who was Surgeon to St. Thomas's Hoſpital, loſt his life in conſequence of his imprudent curioſity, by touching with his tongue, the fluid proceeding from a cancerous gland, after taking off a breaſt ſo diſeaſed.

her mouth, tonſils and fauces; from the appearance of which, and the hiſtory ſhe gave me of her caſe, I could not doubt of its nature; beſides I had once ſeen her ſiſter in her calamitous condition. She was a perſon of ſingular judgment and underſtanding, and after having given me an accurate and circumſtantial account of what had been done for her without any advantage, and her ſaying ſhe was well aſſured ſublimate had not been given her, I propoſed the uſe of that to her conſideration in very ſmall doſes, to be perſevered in for ſome months. She approved my propoſal and took a lodging near me; and after bleeding and gentle purging, I preſcribed it in the following manner, ordering one of the draughts to be taken morning and night.

℞ *Merc. ſublimat. corros. gr. ſs*
Aq. Cinnam. ſimp.
puræ a ℥iij
f. ſolutio in mortario vitreo & add.
Tinct. thebaic. gutt. xx.
f. Hauſt. iv.

I added the Tinct. thebaic. to make the ſublimate ſit eaſier upon the ſtomach, having often obſerved without this precaution, its diſagreeing both with that and the bowels, eſpecially when taken in larger doſes.

In this courſe ſhe proceeded with great regularity; drinking a Decoction prepared with Guaiac. Saſſaf. China & Sarſaparilla, with a ſmall portion of milk added to it, for common drink.

She waſhed her mouth and throat frequently with barley water ſweetened with Mel roſac. diſſolving in a pint of this gargariſm two or three grains of the ſublimate.

She obſerved an exact regimen, taking nothing of a heating or poignant nature, and took now and then a cooling purge.

By this method ſhe was ſoon evidently better, and perfectly cured in about ſix months, without any return of the diſorder;

der; and now enjoys as good health as ſhe had done for many years before.

She had a great many decayed teeth and ſtumps, all which were extracted to prevent irritation.

What method was taken with her huſband at Paris we could not learn; but there he died in about three months.

After ſhe had found ſome amendment, ſhe wrote to him in the moſt preſſing manner to come to her; but he was then in too weak a ſtate to bear ſuch a journey: and it would have been running the greateſt riſk of her own life to have attempted going to him in her condition.

I ſhould have mentioned, that for ſome conſiderable time, I ordered a doſe of Extract of the Bark to be taken twice a day, horis medicis, and a draught of the Decoction before mentioned after it, as an univerſal corroborant in her weak, relaxed ſtate: and that after uſing the

gargarism as mentioned a little time, I increased the quantity of sublimate, but not to a degree to give uneasiness to the parts, and added to it about one third of aqua calcis. ‡

Of cancerous Diseases.

The following short description and plain practical account of *Cancers*, with the treatment of them both in their occult and open state, from my own remarks, observations, experience, &c. may

‡ Concerning the use of *Merc. Sub. corrosiv.* in carcinomatous or phagedænic ulcers, see what *Professor Whytt* has communicated in the London Med. Ob. and Inquiries, Vol. II. and also what *Doctor Akenside* has written about its efficacy in cancerous cases, in the Med. Transactions of the College of Physicians.

In several instances I have seen singular good effects from this mercurial preparation, by long and regular perseverance in some obstinate cutaneous complaints.

We were greatly disappointed here in England, by *Doctor Storck* in his account of the efficacy of *Cicuta* in the cure of Cancers; tho' it was supported by the authority of the late illustrious *Baron Van Swieten*, and other eminent men at *Vienna*.

may not prove unacceptable to the unexperienced; for the benefit of their patients in the moſt formidable and deplorable diſeaſe that human nature is ſubject to, when it will not admit of cure by manual operation.

A *Cancer*, according to the acceptation of the word in a medical ſenſe, ſignifies a hard, unequal, painful tumor, of a duſky purple or livid complexion; and why it is ſo called will preſently be ſhewn.

There have been many diſtinctions of *Cancers* made by medical Writers, which are compriſed in the occult and ulcerated.

Sometimes an eroding ulcer, without ſuch a previous tumor, is called a *Cancer*, and by ſome, with no impropriety, a *Canker*, as this word imports a diſeaſe proceeding from an humour of a corroſive nature: and ſometimes ſmall appearances upon the ſkin like warts, without pain at firſt, turn cancerous.

A cancerous tumor, commonly has a ſmall beginning, gradually increaſing from an obſtruction in ſome glandular body, whether from an internal or external cauſe, and is often attended with a tickling or itching ſenſation: and during its indolent ſtate, without having the color of the ſkin altered, it has the appellation of a *Scirrhus*. *

In

* Under theſe circumſtances, various internal and external medicines are recommended to reſolve it, as Mercurials, &c. which require great caution in their uſe.

Vinegar alone, or with crude ſal ammoniac diſſolved in it, has been thought efficacious by ſome from their powerful attenuating qualities.

A genuine original *Scirrhus*, in which lymph is ſtrongly impacted, ſeldom admits of reſolution by any means; but generally terminates in a *Cancer*, unleſs timely extirpated.

After having diſſected out ſeveral ſuch ſcirhous tumors, I have found their interior ſubſtance like an hard unripe apple, thin ſlices of which being boiled in water had an horney appearance when cold and dry, and the water they were boiled in became glutinous.

Sometimes glandular obſtructions in the breaſts produce tumors reſembling a true Scirrhus, which will, in length of time, inflame, ſuppurate and end favourably by opening.

I have

In many inſtances it is difficult to determine from appearances, when the tranſition out of the ſcirrhous into the cancerous ſtate happens; and its progreſs is quicker or ſlower from the one to the other, from various incidental and concurring cauſes.

When the tumor is attended with a peculiar kind of burning, ſhooting pains, and the ſkin has acquired the duſky, purple, or livid hue, it may then be deemed *a malignant ſcirrhus*, or *a confirmed Cancer*.

When thus far advanced, in womens breaſts, the tumor ſometimes increaſes ſpeedily

I have been concerned in ſome ſuch caſes; but I muſt ingenuouſly confeſs, that, after the utmoſt attention, I cannot give the diſcriminating ſigns with preciſion enough to be depended on in the beginning; tho' probably even then the genuine Scirrhus may have a more ſtoney hardneſs to the feeling, to direct our judgment in ſome meaſure; however it may be moſt adviſable to diſſect out theſe tumors early in a benign ſtate, rather than run the hazard of their degenerating into *Cancers* alſo, from latent cauſes beyond our penetration.

ſpeedily to a great ſize, having a knotty, unequal ſurface, more glands becoming obſtructed; the nipple ſinks in, varicous or turgid veins are conſpicuous, ramefying far about reſembling a *Crab's Claws*, whence it derives the name of *Cancer:* and *Paulus Ægineta* includes the whole appearance of the *Crab-fiſh* in his deſcription of this tumor.

Theſe appearances are the characteriſticks of an occult Cancer on the external parts, and we may ſuſpect the exiſtence of one internally, when ſuch heat and pain as has been deſcribed, ſucceed in parts where the patient has before been ſenſible of a weight and preſſure attended with obtuſe pain. †

There is no part of the body, internal or external which is exempt from this grievous diſeaſe; but the glandular parts are moſt liable to it for obvious reaſons, as

† Vid. Commentaria illuſtriſſimi Baronis Van Swieten in Aphoriſmos celeberrimi Boerhaavii de Scirrho et Cancro.

as the fluids cannot paſs through them ſo uninterruptedly in the courſe of circulation, on account of their convoluted vaſcular ſtructure: For this reaſon it is moſt frequently obſerved upon the breaſts of women, which principally conſiſt of glands.

The teſtes, penis, uterus, and all the genital parts of both ſexes, the meſentery inteſtin. rectum, bladder, &c. are often affected with it. I have alſo ſeen it upon the eyes, noſe, lips, tongue, fauces, and the adjacent glandular parts: and two ſuch caſes have come under my notice upon the thigh and two upon the arm, of which only one was perfectly cured by extirpation: in one of the other the wound was healed, but the cicatrix ſoon opened again; then excreſcences like the heads of colly-flowers ſprouted out, and the patient died miſerably, without any proſpect of ſaving his life by the loſs of his limb.

In

In one of the other cafes it was thought adviſable in conſultation to propoſe amputation of the thigh, but the patient would not conſent to it. ‡

A cancerous tumour never melts down in ſuppuration as an inflammatory one does, the obſtruction lying in the minute lymphatic veſſels. When it is ready to break open, eſpecially in the breaſt, it generally becomes prominent in ſome point, attended with an increaſe of the peculiar kind of burning, ſhooting pain, commonly

‡ Vid. Hildani Opera Obſervat. 1. Cent. 1. & Obſervat. 88. Cent. 3. in reſpect. to extraordinary caſes of this nature upon the eye and penis.

I have lately been conſulted in two ſuch in the inteſtin. rect. and the patients died in the utmoſt diſtreſs ſoon after.

Some years ago a bladder entirely ſcirrhous was taken out of a boy about 8 years old and ſent me, reſembling the ghizzard of a fowl, the cavity of which would not hold a ſpoonful of urine, and in it were found two ſtones. I preſented Mr. Warner, whom I have before mentioned with this curioſity. Had Lithotomy been performed, as was propoſed, it muſt have had a fatal event.

commonly felt before at intervals in a leſs degree, and deeper in the body of the gland or glands, probably occaſioned by ſome lymphatic fluid there contained becoming acrid and irritating; tho' this fluid in its natural ſtate is very ſoft and inoffenſive, till altered with long reſidence in any part by inteſtine motion.

In the prominent part of the tumor, in this ſtate, a corroding ichor ſometimes tranſudes through the ſkin, ſoon forming an ulcer, at other times, a conſiderable quantity of a thin lymphatic fluid tinged with blood from eroded veſſels is found in the tumor. *

Ulcers

* Tumors of the Scirrhous, Cancerous, or Strumous nature proceed originally from lymph obſtructing the glands as I have proved to a demonſtration by experiments: and alſo that the contents of the Steatoma, Meliceris, and Atheroma are lymph in different degrees of inſpiſſation.

Theſe tumors are thought to be of the ſtrumous family, which ſometimes alſo put on cancerous appearances; and under ſuch circumſtances I have ſucceſsfully eradicated ſome by inciſion.

Very

Ulcers of this nature diſcharge a thin, fetid, acrid ſanies, which corrodes the parts having thick dark coloured retorted lips: and fungous excreſcences frequently vegetate from theſe ulcers, notwithſtanding the corroſiveneſs of the humor. In this ſtate they are often attended with excruciating, pungent, lancinating, burning pains, and ſometimes with bleeding. Theſe are the common and principal appearances

Very lately I was concerned in extirpating a tumor of this nature about the ſize of a walnut ſituated below the eye. The operation was attended with a very conſiderable hæmorrhage, which was effectually reſtrained with a piece of the fineſt ſpunge, exactly adapted to the wound, and moderate preſſure.

See what is ſaid upon ſcirrhous and cancerous, or carcinomatous tumors in the Mem. de l' Acad. Roy. de Chirurg. Tom. 1, 3, 4. and Tom 1 of the Prize Mems. of that illuſtrious Society, to which Surgery is greatly indebted. What Le Dran has written upon this ſubject, alſo deſerves attentive reading and conſideration.

appearances of this dreadful diſeaſe in its ulcerated ſtate. †

Difference of conſtitution, age and other circumſtances muſt direct our judgment in making prognoſtics, after conſidering maturely the Diagnoſtics, in this diſeaſe. If the patient's health in other reſpects is not much impaired, the Cancer in an occult ſtate and unattended with pain, and it be not exaſperated by the injudicious uſe of emollient or ſtimulating applications, or aggravated by intemperance of any kind, it may long remain without much inconvenience, as has been well obſerved by Hildanus, Tulpius,

† We read of the terrible ravages of this diſeaſe in Hildanus, Stalpart Vander Wiel, Wiſeman and other eminent writers, and in the Miſcellanea curioſa.

Ætius ſays: At vero ulceratus Cancer aſſiduo erodit, & ad profundum perfodit, nec ſiſti poteſt, & ſaniem emittit omni ferarum veneno deteriorem, copia & odore abominabilem.

I have been an unhappy ſpectator in many ſuch lamentable caſes, not knowing how to give permanent relief to the miſerable patients.

Tulpius, and others of great attention and character; and I have alſo obſerved the ſame myſelf in ſeveral inſtances, when the following rules have been duly attended to; tho' ſhould the tumor lie dormant for ſome years, yet, all things conſidered, the ſooner it is extirpated certainly the better, and ſucceſs may more reaſonably be expected to attend the operation, eſpecially in womens breaſts, for many very obvious reaſons, where it generally increaſes more or leſs upon the ceſſation of the menſtrual evacuon, which frees the body from noxious ſuperfluities, &c. hence particular attention ſhould be paid to women at this period of life, when nature ſuffers a great change, and we ſee they are then often affected with this diſeaſe both in the breaſt and uterus without having had any appearance of it before.

It has been remarked by Phyſicians and Surgeons who have practiſed in Roman Catholic Countries, that the Nuns are more liable to this diſeaſe than other women,

women, from their ſtate of celibacy, which has alſo been obſerved by the great Veſalius; and were it neceſſary ſome reaſons might be offered here for its being ſo. ‡

The curative Indications are,

1. To extirpate the tumor and endeavor to prevent the return of the diſeaſe, upon the ſame or ſome other part of the body.

2. To palliate the diſeaſe, if it is impracticable, or not adviſable, to extirpate the tumor, or the operation be not conſented to.

‡ Monſ. Dionis ſays, that in a tour he made thro' the Provinces in France, he ſaw many women in the Monaſteries afflicted with Cancers, and that much the greater part of them were between the age of 45 and 50 at the time of the ceſſation of the menſes, and that thoſe who were younger and ſo afflicted had this evacuation either totally obſtructed or very irregularly.

When it appears adviſable to propoſe the operation, we ſhould with prudence and precaution give our opinion concerning the expediency of it, without intimidating the patient with the precarioufneſs of the event; tho' we ſhould be more explicit in this point to the relations or friends, for our own juſtification ſhould it not end happily.

More preparation may be found neceſſary on this occaſion, both in reſpect to medicine and regimen, than is generally obſerved before moſt other capital operations: and if the patient is a woman, the time of choice for performing it is, when the menſtrual evacuation has been completely over ſome days, unleſs at a time of life when the returns of it are at uncertain periods.

Tho' it is needleſs to ſay, that the operation is to be performed in the moſt eaſy and gentle manner which the nature of the diſeaſe and the rules of Surgery will admit of, yet it is of the utmoſt conſequence,

conſequence, as I am fully convinced from much and long experience, to be particularly careful in extending the inciſion every way ſufficiently into the ſound parts to leave none diſeaſed; for through inattention to this circumſtance I am perſuaded ſucceſs has ſometimes been wanting in this operation.

The wound is to be treated after the common manner; internals preſcribed and diet regulated as indications direct; and tranquillity of mind in the courſe of the cure is eſſentially neceſſary to be obſerved.

Some time before the wound is cicatrized, perhaps the method which proved ſo efficacious in the preceding cancerous caſe might alſo prove beneficial, by a regular perſeverance in it for a conſiderable time afterwards, and be the means of preventing a return of the diſeaſe. *

* The Patient whoſe caſe is alluded to continues perfectly free from that diſeaſe; I ſaw her very lately.

When the wounds are nearly healed after ſuch operations, fontanels may be adviſable; and when on the breaſts, the moſt eligible parts to open them in ſeem to be above the ſhoulder-blades or between two ribs at a proper diſtance from the limits of the cicatrix. I have proceeded thus upon ſome ſimilar occaſions, and I believe with advantage. †

When the operation is not adviſable, it is requiſite for the patient to obſerve a ſtrict

† I have extirpated ſcirrhous tumors of different ſizes out of the breaſts of women, of almoſt all ages, before they arrived apparently at the cancerous ſtate, without diſappointment in the cure; and alſo taken off many cancerous breaſts with ſucceſs, two of which had been ſometime in an ulcerous ſtate, having ſtill ſome favourable circumſtances to encourage the operations, and they ſucceeded ſo happily according to the above direction, that the patients continue perfectly well after more than 10 years.

A caſe of the ſame nature I was concerned in upon a woman's arm, where the operation was performed with this attention, and with the like ſucceſs.

See my Caſes and Remarks in Surgery, Edit. II. concerning Cancers and cancerous Excreſcences.

ſtrict regimen of diet, which ſhould conſiſt of the ſoft demulcent kind, with but little animal food; nothing of a heating poignant nature ſhould be taken.

A due obſervance of this article, and the other non-naturals, may, in ſome meaſure, check the progreſs of the diſeaſe, or alleviate the ſymptoms.

Special regard ſhould be had to avoid paſſions of the mind, whence I have ſeen dreadful conſequences in this diſeaſe.

Gentle purging and moderate bleeding, when pain and tenſion urge, ſhould by no means be omitted; and then a more ſpare and liquid diet ſhould be injoined.

When the habit is thin, and the patient ſeemingly hectical, aſs's milk is adviſable; and under theſe circumſtances a decoction, prepared with rad. ſarſaparill. chin. ering. and raiſons, with or without a portion of new milk, is a proper common drink.

In lax conſtitutions ſome preparation of the Bark may prove beneficial, which is a good antiſeptic as well as a corroborant: and at the time of writing this paper, I have a patient with an ulcerated Cancer in the breaſt, who has been taking a cold infuſion of the Bark in water with orange peel, and, I think, with ſome advantage in reſpect to her general health.

All compreſſion ſhould be avoided, more eſpecially when the tumor is upon the breaſt, which ſhould alſo be well ſuſpended, if it becomes burdenſome by its weight.

I believe nothing is better to be worn againſt it, than well dreſt hare's or rabbet's ſkin; avoiding all unctuous, emollient or ſtimulating applications.

This appears to me the beſt method of treating a Cancer in its occult ſtate, when the operation cannot be practiſed, and when in an ulcerated ſtate the ſame regimen,

regimen, &c. is adviſable to correct and attemperate the acrimony of the juices, with ſome preparation of the Bark; uſing no irritating applications to the ulcer. ‡ Various applications are recommended by writers in Surgery; thoſe of the ſaturnine kind I have found, by long experience, moſt agreeable in general: the following Lotion and Cerate I have frequently uſed much to my ſatisfaction and eaſe of the patients.

℞ *Pulv. è Ceruſs. comp.*
Mucilag. Gum. arab. a ʒij
Sacchar. Saturni ℈j
Probè contritis in Mortario marmoreo adde ſenſim
Aq. Calcis
Roſar. damaſcenar. a ʒvj *f. Lotio.*

Unguent. ſaturnin. cum duplice quantitate Ceræ albæ paratum f. Cerat.

‡ Extract. Cicutæ, has had a fair trial given it in many places without effect in cancerous caſes. Some judicious practitioners have thought it beneficial in glandular tumors of a ſtrumous nature, to which I can ſay nothing to be depended on of my own knowledge.

After having gently cleanſed the ulcer it is to be well waſhed with the lotion moderately warm, and ſtrips of plaſter made with the cerate laid round the edges; then ſoft even dry lint, or lint moiſtened with the lotion, is to be applied, and a plaſter of the cerate over that, having ſmall holes ſnipt in it, that the matter may not be confined; and over this dreſſing, nothing is ſo proper and eaſy as cotton-wool wrapt up in fine linen cloth, with a very ſlight bandage.

Sometimes I have faced the pledgets of lint with Unguent. ſaturnin. having a little Pulv. è Ceruſs. comp. mixt with it. However, great regard muſt be paid to the effect of every kind of application, to be varied according to circumſtances and the effects it produces: for what ſhall be found by experience to keep the parts eaſieſt is beſt.

Some practitioners of great character have highly recommended applications prepared with Solanum, Cicuta and other narcotic

narcotic plants; I have tried them in various forms, and made ointments with them in the ſame manner as Unguent. ſambucin. P. L. adding wax in ſuch proportion as to give them the conſiſtence of a ſoft cerate; and found they ſometimes proved an eaſy dreſſing: I have alſo ſeen ſome good effect from a carrot-poultice.

The ſtench proceeding from theſe ulcers is often very great, conſequently noxious to the patient and attendants. *

In this condition they require frequent dreſſing even three or four times in 24 hours, and to have the cloths ſprinkled with ſome odorous antiputreſcent liquor, as lavender-water alone or mixt with vinegar: and now it may become very neceſſary to defend the ſkin about the ulcer againſt the acrimony of the matter, by

* Doctor Harris has recorded a fatal inſtance, where a Phyſician ſuffered in this manner from his own wife, who was afflicted with an ulcerous Cancer in her breaſt.

by plaſters of Cerat. alb. or ſomething of that gentle nature ſpread thin upon fine cloth. In extreme pain recourſe muſt occaſionally be had to opiates. In hæmorrhages, which often happen from eroſion of the veſſels, I have uſed lycoperdon or puff-ball dry or moiſtened with aqua ſtyptica, which, with moderate preſſure, has effectually anſwered the end without creating pain, which is no immaterial conſideration, in theſe caſes particularly; and in a Lady's caſe wherein I am concerned at this juncture, it has had this happy effect more than once, in her cancerous breaſt.

I have ſometimes applied to the ulcers thin ſlices of this ſoft, eaſy fungous ſubſtance inſtead of dry lint, as an abſorbent, after waſhing it with the lotion, when there has been no bleeding, and it has agreed very well. †

The beſt and moſt expeditious way of cleanſing the ulcer at the times of dreſſing

† Concerning this very uſeful fungous ſubſtance, ſee my Treatiſe on wounds, Pag. 165. and ſeq.

ſing is, with a piece of the fineſt ſpunge of ſuitable dimenſions, expreſſed out of warm water, having a little brandy mixt with it, which by gentle preſſure upon the ulcer, at once abſorbs the matter in the moſt eaſy manner, and alſo corrects putreſcence. The ſame method may likewiſe be found as proper in other ulcers or wounds.

Of an Hydrocele with a diſeaſed Teſticle accompanying it, and a more uncommon appearance than that.

April the 17th, 1773, Mr. Henchman, a Surgeon of a very reſpectable character, at Earl-Soham in the County of Suffolk, brought a patient to me at Doctor D' Urban's at Haleſworth, about 28 years of age, whoſe health ſeemed good in all other reſpects, except a tumor in his ſcrotum, which had been deemed an Hydrocele Tunicæ vaginalis.

About a year and a half before, the patient himſelf diſcovered a ſmall tumor on

on the anterior and inferior part of his right teſticle, which increaſed gradually and was now about five inches in length and eight in circumference, extending almoſt to the abdominal ring, having in it a manifeſt fluctuation of a fluid. It was attended with ſome degree of ſhooting pain quite to the loins, the ſkin had a ſwarthy color, the veins upon it were varicous and the ſpermatic cord was conſiderably enlarged.

Theſe ſymptoms, according to what I have often obſerved, may juſtly raiſe apprehenſions, when the teſticle cannot be diſtinctly felt through a conſiderable quantity of fluid in the Tunica vaginalis, that it is not a ſimple Hydrocele; and this is a point which demands the utmoſt attention to direct our practice for the ſafety of the patient, leſt the caſe ſhould prove complicated with a diſeaſed teſticle.

On the 7th of May following, I was deſired to attend a conſultation, conſiſting of four Surgeons, at the patient's own houſe.

After deliberately conſidering every circumſtance, we thought it by no means adviſable to purſue the palliative method practiſed in a true Hydrocele, nor attempt the radical cure either by cauſtic or ſeton as recommended by two eminent writers. ‡

We were willing to proceed with all due precaution for our own ſakes as well as our patient's ſafety; conſequently we acquainted his relations and friends with the reſult of our deliberations and the precarioufneſs of the ſucceſs of the method propoſed, which we had unanimouſly agreed upon, and it was readily aſſented to by all concerned.

The patient having been properly prepared, an inciſion of a ſufficient extent was now made at the inferior and anterior part of the tumor, in order to inveſtigate the ſtate of the teſticle; intending if found diſeaſed as we feared, to proceed to caſtration directly, having an apparatus ready; and if not ſo affected then

‡ Mr. Pott and Mr. Elſe.

then to endeavour to perform the radical cure by extending the inciſion farther, &c. as ſhould be found neceſſary. *

Upon making the inciſion, eight or ten ounces of a fluid like pale urine paſſed out, and then an Hydatide about the ſize of an hen's egg preſented itſelf, having a tranſparent, thick, gelatinous fluid contained in a fine pellucid membrane, adhering to the Tunica albuginea of an enlarged diſeaſed teſticle. Theſe circumſtances determined us to proceed forthwith to caſtration, which was performed without any remarkable occurrence,

* See my Caſes and Remarks in Surgery, Edit. II. upon this ſubject, particularly the note at Page 225; and concerning Caſtration, &c. from Page 237 to 246.

Two years ago I was conſulted in a ſimple Hydrocele, for a perſon about 70 years of age, and the palliative operation was performed, diſcharging near a quart of water, without any bad accident in conſequence of it. Next year the operation was again performed, deſiring our patient to forbear much exerciſe for a few days; but the day after he rode a long journey, which occaſioned a violent inflammation; it was treated properly by his Surgeon in ordinary and proved a radical cure though no abſceſs ſucceeded the inflammation.

rence, taking up the ſpermatic artery with a little cellular membrane by the needle and ligature, avoiding the nerve. The ſheath of the cord, and the Tunica vaginalis were much thickened and reſembled doe's leather.

After the operation we accurately examined the diſeaſed parts, and found the membrane which enveloped the Hydatide firmly attached to the Tunica albuginea and to the Epididymis of a livid complexion, and that the teſtis had a cancerous tendency, the tubuli of which were of a dark color. Theſe appearances gave us the ſatisfaction of being convinced we had proceeded rationally, as well as with a degree of precaution extremely neceſſary in a caſe no leſs dubious in its event than important in its nature.

The Symptoms in conſequence of the operation were favourable, and on July the 28th, when I again met Mr. Henchman upon buſineſs, he informed me the wound had been perfectly cicatrized ſome weeks

weeks, and that the patient enjoyed a good ſtate of health. †

Of

† Vid Morgagni de Cauſis & Sedibus Morborum, Epiſt. 43. Art. 16 & ſeq. and Mr. Elſe's judicious Treatiſe on the Hydrocele Tunicæ vaginalis Teſtis, concerning Hydatides upon the Tunica albuginea, &c.—Morgagnus ſays, in his Adverſaria anatomica, that the Tunica albuginea conſiſts of two Lamellœ: and De Graaf de Virorum Organis Generationis, ſays,—Vaſa lymphatica quæ admodum dextere in Teſticulis detexit noſtri Seculi Curioſitas, non ſolum provenire nobis videntur a Tunica albuginea, ſed etiam ab interna Teſticulorum Subſtantia: and Nuck, in his Adenographia Curioſa, ſpeaks to the ſame purpoſe.

Read what the late celebrated Profeſſor Monro has written upon Tumors in the Scrotum, in the Med. Eſſays, Vol. V. and Monſ. Bertrandi's Diſſertation on the Hydrocele, in the Mem. de l' Acad. Roy. de Chirurgie, Tom. III.—Mr. Ingram in his chirurgical Obſervations deſcribes ſix diſtinct kinds of Hydroceles, which are well worth attending to, where he alſo takes notice of Hydatides; but does not mention a Caſe wherein any appeared in an Hydrocele in theſe parts, nor how they are produced.

As Lymphatics according to the Doctrine of accurate modern Anatomiſts, take their riſe from and are diſperſed in the cellular Membrane, ſo probably Hydatides proceed from Ruptures of them, having their fluid depoſited in the Cells of that Membrane, which is the univerſal connecting ſubſtance; and there, gradually increaſing and diſtending them, form Cyſts of different ſizes.—Some have thought Hydatides were Lymphatics diſtended with their fluid by Obſtructions.

Of a Lunatic's ſwallowing an iron pin more than five inches long, tapering and about two inches in circumference at the biggeſt end, and its conſequences.

When the keeper of this gentleman went at night to ſecure the door of his room, as he uſed to do, and was looking for the pin, he ſaid to him, "don't look "for it, I have ſwallowed it:" this he little credited; but it being in a lucid interval he aſked him what induced him to do ſo, and his anſwer was; "I was "thirſty and my mouth hot, and putting "the pin into it, it felt cool and very "pleaſant, and I thruſt it down my "throat with my finger thus," deſcribing the manner, ſaying, "it is gone indeed."

He made no complaint till about a fortnight after; then became very reſtleſs, and ſaid his body ached violently;

but had no recollection of ſwallowing the pin: however, upon taking a purge it was brought away and all his complaints immediately ceaſed.

The keeper of this Lunatic is a perſon of veracity; and ſome years after he had given me this ſtrange relation, I was called to his houſe upon buſineſs in my profeſſion, and finding the gentleman pretty rational, as he was at times, I aſked him about this matter, and he confirmed to me the truth of the whole tranſaction.

A caſe miſtaken, attended with a ſingular circumſtance.

In May, 1768, an excellent Apothecary, who alſo practiſed Surgery, aſked my opinion concerning a boy about ſeven years of age, who he told me had long had *a fiſtulous ulcer in perinæo*, with *a glandular tumor* in the left *inguen*, and that, from the appearances, he apprehended

hended it was a ſcrophulous caſe: however, upon more ſtrict inquiry we were informed, that ſeveral months before he became this gentleman's patient, he fell with great violence upon the *iſchium*, in conſequence of which he had extreme pain there, extending to the *perinæum*, where an abſceſs afterwards was formed and ſuffered to burſt of itſelf, without application being made to a Surgeon, his parents being very poor.

Upon paſſing a probe towards the *iſchium*, farther than had before been introduced, I plainly felt a piece of bone in the ſinus, which was very ſtrait: and upon examining the tumor attentively, it appeared beyond diſpute, to be a *teſtis* that had never deſcended into the *ſcrotum*.

A Teſtis lodged in the Inguen taken for a ſtrumous tumor.

My friend was fully convinced, and ingenuouſly confeſſed his miſtake.

I adviſed enlarging the opening to give room for the eaſy paſſage of the piece of

 bone,

bone, now much confined, and to take the plaſter off the *teſticle*, giving it full liberty.

The ulcer healed ſoon after the diſcharge of a large exfoliation; but probably the *teſticle* had acquired ſuch a ſtrong adheſion to the ſurrounding parts, as never to be diſlodged from that reſidence, and fall into its proper place. *

Of

* Doctor Michaelſon, an ingenious young Phyſician with whom I was acquainted in London, told me that he had been concerned for a patient in the venereal diſeaſe, whoſe teſticles had not deſcended into the Scrotum at more than 20 years of age, but lay juſt above the inguina eaſily to be felt.

Until the time of birth, the *Teſtes* of the *Fœtus* are ſituated within the cavity of the *Abdomen*.

See a deſcription of their ſituation, &c. concerning the *Hernia congenita* in the accurate Doctor Hunter's Medical Commentaries, by Mr. John Hunter, his Brother, an excellent Anatomiſt alſo, and Surgeon to St. George's Hoſpital in London.

Of a caſe wherein the liver was of an enormous ſize.

The ſubject of this hiſtory was a Gentleman of the law, aged about 60, of an uncommon ſmall ſtature and lean habit of body. He had for ſome years been in a valetudinary ſtate, probably owing to a ſedentary life and too cloſe application to ſtudy and buſineſs, which deprived him of the benefit of two eſſentials to health, air, and exerciſe.

At length the abdominal Viſcera became obſtructed and affected to a great degree, and he had a cadaverous aſpect.

Under theſe circumſtances he was adviſed to go to Bath, in the vernal ſeaſon of the year 1765; there he conſulted two Phyſicians and Mr. Pierce the Surgeon; and tho' his body was then conſiderably enlarged, they apprehended it contained

but little fluid, and did not deem it an *Aſcites* requiring *Paracenteſis*.

Upon his return home I was deſired to attend him with Doctor Offley; the caſe appeared to us as it had done to the Gentlemen at Bath, and we were ſenſible that the liver was of a vaſt bigneſs, extending almoſt all over the Abdomen.

Soon after ill health obliged me to retire from buſineſs, and prevented my farther attendance.

The year following it was thought adviſable to tap him and repeat the operation four times, which gave very little relief; the quantity of fluid drawn off each time was but ſmall and gelatinous.

He died in November, 1767, and according to his own deſire his body was opened.

Upon opening the Abdomen, but a ſmall quantity of a fluid, and that gelatinous,

tinous, was found diffuſed in the cavity; in a cyſt formed of the peritonæal coat of the liver on its concave ſide, five or ſix pints of the like kind of fluid were contained; the liver was ſcirrhous to a great degree, and much reſembled a cow's udder; it weighed 28 pounds, which was more than one fourth of the weight of the patient's whole body when in health; it was overſpread with Hydatides, each containing from a quarter to half a pint or more of inſpiſſated lymph; ſome of which were burſt and had ſhed their contents into the cavity of the Abdomen.

In proportion to the ſize of the patient, it is ſuppoſed to be the largeſt ever obſerved.

The Spleen was enlarged to double its natural ſize, and was alſo full of Hydatides like thoſe on the Liver.

The Meſenteric Glands were diſtended with gelatinous lymph.

The abdominal Viſcera adhered together and to the containing parts.

The contents of the Thorax were not diſeaſed, but the capacity of it was greatly diminiſhed, by the extraordinary bulk and preſſure upwards of the Liver, &c. by which reſpiration became very difficult.

I am obliged to the Phyſician who attended the diſſection for theſe deſcriptions.

A ſingular caſe of a ſtone lodged in the Rectum *juſt above the* Sphincter Ani.

A Gentleman between 60 and 70 years of age, naturally of a very robuſt conſtitution, but now greatly emaciated, had been for nine or ten years ſubject to diſorders of the urinary paſſages often voiding gravel and ſmall ſtones; and about three years ago had a large abſceſs formed *in perinæo*; which was opened by an old, experienced Surgeon; but he did not diſcover any perforation of the *Urethra*.

The

The ulcer remained in a fiſtulous ſtate, and in a ſhort time he complained of uneaſineſs in the *Rectum* above the *Sphincter Ani*. This new complaint ſoon became very tormenting, and was long looked upon and treated as the *internal Piles*, when, by introducing his own finger, he felt ſome ſolid body, which was apprehended, by thoſe whom he conſulted on this occaſion, to be a plumb-ſtone or a biliary concretion lodged there, without examining the part as he himſelf had done.

He was now in a deplorable condition, not being able to ſit upon a ſeat, in conſtant pain, excruciating upon going to ſtool, and had urine paſs thro' the fiſtulous ulcer *in perinæo*, and ſometimes into the *rectum*.

Under theſe circumſtances his Phyſician * propoſed my being conſulted with the two Surgeons who had been concerned for him ſome time.

After

* Doctor Bigſby of Ipſwich.

After ſtrictly examining the parts, and deliberately conſidering every circumſtance in our conſultation, we were unanimouſly of opinion, that a ſtone had ſlipped out of its courſe when the abſceſs was formed *in perinæo*, and at length made its way partly into the *Rectum*, as we were in no doubt that what we felt there with our fingers was the point of a ſtone, tho' we could not feel any by introducing a probe into the fiſtulous ulcer.

From theſe conſiderations we propoſed cutting upon it, in order to extract it, after emptying the Rectum with a clyſter.

The patient was ſo well ſatisfied with the propriety of this method, as to conſent to it directly; and the operation was judiciouſly performed by his Surgeon in ordinary, by cutting upon it through the *Sphincter*, making the wound ſufficiently large to extract it with facility.

The ſtone was of a tapering figure more than an inch long, of the bigneſs of the little

little finger, and about one third of its length projected into the Rectum, where a kind of neck was formed, by the ſtricture of the ſurrounding parts, which confined it ſtrongly in its ſituation, where undoubtedly it gradually encreaſed.

The wound healed kindly without any ill accident in conſequence of the operation; and by properly treating the fiſtulous ulcer with bougies, &c. that was alſo ſoon brought into a healing ſtate, and both were perfectly cured in leſs than two months, as the Surgeon informed me.

I ſaw this Gentleman the year after; he had then recovered his fleſh, and told me he enjoyed good health, finding no uneaſineſs upon the parts in walking, riding, or in going to ſtool.

Copy

Copy of a Letter to Doctor Monsey, Physician to Chelsea-Hospital, which I took from the Original in the Patient's own Hand-writing, with the Doctor's Consent: and it is inserted here, some circumstances being omitted in the account of the case in the Medical Transactions of the College of Physicians.

London,

October the 1st, 1766.

GOOD SIR,

" With all humble submission I take " the liberty, in this manner, to acquaint " you with my disorder of the most sin- " gular nature, with which I was seized " as near as I can recollect, in the year " 1752, and shall endeavour to give you " as clear and exact a representation of " it as I can.

" When ever I went out into the open air, or exposed myself to the sun, my skin

" ſkin began to be tickled, and as I went
" on or remained therein, that tickling
" ſenſation would ſoon become a violent
" itching attended with uncommon heat,
" and my ſkin alſo wherever touched by
" the warm air or the ſun-beams would
" immediately appear as red as vermi-
" lion, but ſooneſt by the effect of the
" latter, and become thick and ſtiff as
" leather, ſometimes horney; but I was
" thus affected only between ſun and
" ſun; for before the ſun roſe and after
" it ſat I was quite another man.

" Thus it is with me now, and from
" ſun-riſing to ſun-ſetting, I am in a
" a ſtate of involuntary confinement
" within doors.

" Many worthy Gentlemen of the
" Faculty have given me their advice and
" endeavours to relieve me in this diſ-
" treſs,

" treſs, which rendered me incapable of
" following my occupation, as a watch-
" maker, to earn my bread: beſides
" which, I had the aſſiſtance of the moſt
" noted Hoſpitals, but without any ſen-
" ſible benefit, tho' what was preſcribed
" for me might poſſibly check the rapi-
" dity of the progreſs of my tormenting
" diſeaſe, which might ſoon have put a
" period to my life.

" At laſt the Gentlemen were unani-
" mouſly of opinion that ſea-bathing for
" three months might afford me ſome re-
" lief, if not perfectly cure me; and be-
" ing tired of my life, and almoſt diſ-
" tracted with my condition, I ſcraped
" together what ſmall matter my ſcanty
" circumſtances would allow and went
" to Yarmouth, where after going in-
" to the open ſea for ſix weeks night
" and morning, I thought it high time

" to

" to try an experiment, in order to prove
" whether I had received any benefit; to
" which purpoſe I pitched upon a day,
" which experience had convinced me
" was proper for the trial: I undreſt in
" the middle of the day and went into
" the water, and after a triple immerſion
" I thought it prudent to come out,
" finding a return of thoſe dreadful
" ſymptoms I have deſcribed, with great
" aggravation; what I felt before I could
" get on my cloaths is inexpreſſible; but
" I will as well as I can endeavour to con-
" vey to you an idea of my miſery at this
" time: the itching, together with the
" heat diffuſed themſelves with ſuch ſpi-
" rit and activity thro' my whole frame,
" that nature ſeemed ready to yield, my
" eyes grew dim and could not per-
" form their office, and I became ſo ex-
" ceſſively weak and faint that I was
" compelled to lie down upon the beach
" to prevent falling; but the moment I
" thus proſtrated myſelf the faintneſs
" abated; I then got up, but it inſtantly
" returned and I was forced to lie down
" again;

" again; thus was I alternately getting
" up and lying down for half an hour
" before I found myſelf able to walk.

" This account may ſeem amazing to
" ſome and be diſputed by others; but
" indeed it is true without any exag-
" geration.

" Finding myſelf likely to be diſap-
" pointed in this ultimate hope and re-
" fuge, from the moſt ſerious reflection,
" I ſhould with great willingneſs, have
" reſigned my exiſtence, rather than have
" lived ſo ſingular a monument of mi-
" ſery, without any proſpect of cure or
" alleviation of the wretchedneſs of my
" condition: however, as the time li-
" mited for my bathing in the ſea was
" but half expired, I reſolved to ſtay to the
" full extent of it, and continued it
" morning and night for ſeven weeks
" longer, which made in the whole thir-
" teen: and I alſo drank a pint of the
" ſea-water every morning faſting.

" Having

" Having now ſtrictly conformed to " this laſt reſort, overwhelmed with hor- " ror and diſtreſs, I ſat myſelf down up- " on the pier-head, ruminating upon my " hard fate and irremediable condition, " and reſolved to return home as ſoon as " I could.

" After my return various means were " tried to no better purpoſe, till I ap- " plied to you, by whoſe kind and cha- " ritable aſſiſtance, when reduced to the " laſt degree of deſpondency I have re- " ceived comfort, and am enabled to " breathe and bear that air which is ap- " pointed for the general benefit of man- " kind; and alſo to purſue my buſineſs " for my ſupport.

" The account I have related is au- " thentic, as God is my judge; and " many living witneſſes can atteſt the " truth of it, which I thought would

" be agreeable to you to have under my
" own hand, as the circumſtances are of
" ſuch an extraordinary nature. I for-
" got to mention my age, which is 38.
" I am with profound reſpect and
" gratitude",

Worthy Sir,

Your moſt obliged and

dutiful Servant

WEST ADAMS

Watch-Maker in Turk's-Head-Court,
Golden-Lane near Barbican.

London.

The

* The Doctor told me that warm bathing, ſmall doſes of Calomel, as an alterative, long perſevered in, taking now and then a lenient purge, with a ſtrict obſervance of the non-naturals and a proper regimen of diet, was the method which proved of ſuch ſingular ſervice.

The Doctor informed me in Auguſt, 1768, that this man continued well without having had any return of his diſeaſe.

The winter before this diſeaſe appeared, his diet conſiſted chiefly of bullock's liver and porter, and his com-

panion

The following letter was ſent to Sir Chriſtopher Meighan at Dieppe in Normandy, by a Gentleman of the army, for his opinion in reſpect to the uſe of the Waters at Bareges in his caſe, with the ſtate of it incloſed.

Norwich,

March the 10th, 1767

SIR,

" After having read your Treatiſe on " the Bareges-Waters, I deſired the Sur- " geon under whoſe care I had been, as " long as his health would allow him to " attend me, to draw up my caſe to be " tranſmitted to you, to know whether " you think them proper in it; and I

panion lived in the ſame manner, who was alſo afflicted in a leſs degree; which circumſtances are omitted in the preceding letter, but the patient acquainted the Doctor with them afterwards, as he informed me.

" beg the favour of your immediate an-
" ſwer, with ſuch directions as you ſhall
" judge neceſſary to give for the uſe of
" them, if you think them adviſable in
" my caſe.

" Should you encourage my taking ſo
" long a journey, I will repair thither
" directly.

I am,

Sir,

Your moſt humble Servant

***** ********

" The incloſed ſtate of my caſe has
" been read and approved by my Phy-
" ſician.

State of the Caſe.

The Gentleman is about 30 years of age of ſmall ſtature but had remarkable ſtrength for his ſize. He was of a lively, active diſpoſition and always enjoyed good

good health till the year 1762, when he ſuffered very much by hard duty, and lying in the damp trenches at Belleiſle.

In conſequence of theſe hardſhips, he firſt was ſeized with a pain upon his hip, which was conſidered and treated as a rheumatic diſorder, by the Regimental Surgeon, then at home by a Surgeon of character in the country, and afterwards by a Phyſician of great eminence in London.

Two years elapſed under the care of theſe Gentlemen, without finding any relief; and ſometime after, when both hip and thigh were greatly enlarged, they were electrified nine times, receiving the ſevereſt ſhocks each time, upon pretence of more effectually diſperſing the ſwelling, under the direction of a perſon entirely ignorant of medical knowledge.

A moſt abſurd Electrification.

From the time of the Electrification, every thing proceeded from bad to worſe,

and in a little time he returned to his native place, much emaciated and hectical, putting himſelf again under the care of his former Surgeon, who finding a great collection of matter throughout the thigh, made an ample opening through the Faſcia Femoris.

An immenſe quantity of fetid matter was diſcharged, like the waſhings of fleſh; the ſubjacent muſcles were very flabby and livid, looking like a new flayed hare after lying in water.

In Auguſt, 1764, ſoon after this ſtep had been taken, Doctor Offley and I were called to him.

Conſidering his extreme weakneſs, requiring the aſſiſtance of two or three perſons to turn him in his bed, and every motion being attended with exquiſite pain, his being ſhrunk almoſt to ſkin and bone, with loſs of appetite, and having a vexatious cough with colliquative ſweats, it was no wonder that his Surgeon

Surgeon ſhould declare to us as he did, even before we ſaw him, that we were come to ſee a dying man, whom he believed would live but a very few days: and indeed after ſeeing him and examining the ſtate of the caſe with the utmoſt care and attention, and receiving an hiſtory of it from the beginning in a very circumſtantial and exact manner, we alſo deſpaired of his recovery.

The Surgeon's opinion when the Doctor and I were called in.

We diſcovered ſinuſes in every direction in the interſtices of the muſcles, from the loins and hip to the ham, by introducing a bougie, whence proceeded ſuch an immoderate quantity of the moſt offenſive ſanious matter, that it was not poſſible he could long have exiſted under that diſcharge, with the abſorption of the matter keeping up a conſtant fever, &c. and we were now apprehenſive the bones were affected in different parts.

From this inundation of matter we conſidered the parts as a moraſs that required draining, in order to make firm land; conſequently agreed to obtain three or four depending openings, and dreſs the whole in the moſt eaſy, ſuperficial manner: one was made at the inferior part of the lumbar region, directly upon a point where he had long complained of ſuch exquiſite pain, that he could not bear to lie upon it. Here we found a caries upon the ſpinal proceſs of the laſt *vertebra* with great roughneſs of the bone; and immediately after this opening he was able to lie upon that part with eaſe.

Depending and counter openings, &c. ſoon produced a wonderful change in this caſe.

The depending and counter openings, with the eaſy, ſuperficial dreſſings, ſoon produced a very wonderful change in the caſe; the diſcharge leſſened, and the matter became better conditioned: and with the

the assistance of the Physician's advice and prescriptions, there was a daily amendment in all respects very visibly.

After our attendance at a distance about six weeks, the Gentleman was earnestly desirous, with the concurrence of his relations, to be under our immediate care and inspection, and was accordingly removed to Norwich, a distance of about 30 miles, and bore the journey without being much fatigued, lying upon a bed in a large coach.

We now pursued our original plan of occasionally making depending openings of a moderate extent, and preserving them in the easiest manner, to give a free and uninterrupted discharge to the matter, and room for the expulsion of carious pieces of bones, from the *Os sacrum*, *Isch.* and *Fem.* as well as the *Verteb.* which has been mentioned, all which we found affected;

affected; and to give nature an opportunity of filling up with good flesh and closing such dreadful cavernous ulcers.

We had from all these bones exfoliations, some thicker and some thinner, and some from the *Os Femoris* the thickness of the bone quite to the marrow: the whole number were 26, but only one has come away visibly for about a year; since which many of the sinuses have perfectly closed, others have contracted into a narrow compass and none of those still remaining open afford much matter.

He drank Asses Milk, took the Bark, Elix. Vitriol. &c. and observed such a regimen, with great regularity in all respects, as the Doctor thought advisable.

He has recovered flesh and strength far beyond our expectation, and so much of his

his wonted gayety and chearfulneſs as to reliſh amuſements and diverſions.

This worthy Gentleman in the whole courſe of his moſt dreadful affliction, ſhewed the greateſt magnanimity and fortitude of mind.

Haleſworth,

Feb. the 18th, 1767.

B. GOOCH.

This caſe was atteſted by Dr. Offley of Norwich. †

Sir

† In conſequence of an unfortunate, and unforeſeen incident which brought my life into the moſt imminent danger, I was obliged to retire from buſineſs between two and three years; which circumſtance prevented my ſeeing this Gentleman for more than a year before I drew up this hiſtory of his caſe, and what occurred in that intermediate period was left to be added, by the Surgeon who ſucceeded me, with the Phyſician's concurrence.

Sir Chriſtopher Meighan's anſwer.

Dieppe in Normandy,

March the 21ſt, 1767.

SIR,

" The origin of your diſorder was " manifeſtly obſtructed perſpiration, in " conſequence of which matter was in " time congeſted, forming a tumor upon " the limb.

Remarks upon the abſurdity of the Electrification, with the probable ill effects of it.

" The Electrification ſo unſeaſonably " and violently practiſed proved, without " doubt, very injurious; the repeated " percuſſions in that manner, particularly " affecting the diſtended veſſels, muſt " produce lacerations in many of the ca- " pillaries, and occaſion a diffuſion of " matter on all ſides, whence proceeded " more ſinuſes than there would other- " wiſe have been, and probably more " injury to the bones.

" It

" It is needleſs to ſay any more on " the circumſtances of your caſe, than to " felicitate you on the excellency of your " conſtitution, that was able to withſtand " ſuch dreadful attacks, and to congra- " tulate the Gentlemen by whoſe ſalu- " tary care you have been preſerved, par- " ticularly by the judicious meaſures " they purſued in making opportune de- " pending openings, by which the prey- " ing matter was drained off, giving the " carious bones room to exfoliate, and " preventing, by thoſe means, the fatal " conſequences of hectic fever, profuſe " night ſweats and conſumptive cough, " which would finally have ended in a " fatal maraſmus, by purulent matter " being conſtantly abſorbed, and mixing " with the maſs of blood and humors.

" The preſent ſtate in which you are, " alone claims our conſideration and at- " tention, and in my opinion, from what " I have obſerved of the efficacy of the " Bareges Waters, they are exceedingly " proper in your caſe now; for any

" ſinuſes

" ſinuſes ſtill remaining open may be-
" come fiſtulous, and calloſities will pre-
" vent a cure being perfected, as daily
" experience evinces, which may be
" brought into a ſure healing diſpoſition,
" by the reſolutive and digeſtive power
" of theſe Waters.

" Carious ſplinters of bones, if they
" lie latent, as they ſometimes will for
" many years, and breaking forth re-
" vive great evils, will be detached by
" the operation of the *Douche*; ‡ and
" what is the main point, by drinking
" theſe balſamic ſalubrious waters health
" may be reſtored

" In order to obtain theſe deſirable
" ends I adviſe as follows.

The method of uſing the Waters and Baths at Bareges.

" As ſoon as you get to Bareges, which
" ſhould be by the beginning of June at
" lateſt, I would have you begin with
" the temperate, lukewarm Baths called
" *Bains*

‡ *Douche* is the ſame operation as our pumping at Bath.

" *Bains de Delices*, continuing them nine
" days ſucceſſively, each bathing to be of
" an hour and half's duration at leaſt,
" taking the dreſſings previouſly off the
" ulcers, afterwards applying to them
" ſoft even pledgets of lint, and com-
" preſſes dipped in the water of the hot-
" teſt ſpring, to be gently bound on with
" a roller; which eaſy ſimple method of
" dreſſing is ſufficient at all times, unleſs
" the orifices of the ulcers be callous,
" or there be calloſities in the ſinuſes,
" in which caſe there may be occaſion
" to ſcarify the lips and dreſs them with
" an ointment prepared with two parts
" of the pureſt ſediment of the Baths
" and one of crude mercury, with a
" ſmall portion of the fineſt turpentine,
" to be well rubbed together till the
" mercury be perfectly extinguiſhed and
" no globules to be ſeen: and ſome of
" this ointment is to be conveyed into
" the ſinuſes, as far as it can convenient-
" ly, upon ſoft pledgets of lint, not
" cramming them full; continuing this

An ointment to dreſs the ulcers with.

" manner

" manner of dreſſing, ſo long as the parts
" remain in a callous ſtate, according to
" the Surgeon's judgment.

" During theſe nine days, two hours
" before entering the Bath, it will be
" proper to have a clyſter given of the
Clyſters of the Water recommended. " temperate water: and during the whole
" courſe of theſe waters, clyſters of the
" temperate, or hotteſt water, if you are
" not too hot, may prove beneficial
" twice or thrice a week.

The manner of drinking the water. " You may ſend every morning early
" for a quart of the hotteſt ſpring water,
" and drink it mixt with the ſame quan-
" tity of freſh drawn cow's milk, divided
" into ſix portions, with the interval of
" an hour; perſiſting in the uſe of this
" ſalutary medicine during the whole
" ſeaſon, except on the purging days,
" which ſhould be every tenth for the
" firſt month, and fifteenth afterwards,
" doing nothing in theſe days but waſh
" the ſores with the hotteſt water, injec-
" ting ſome into the ſinuſes, with the

" reſt

" reſt of the dreſſing as has been direc-
" ted; uſing the ointment if found ne-
" ceſſary.

" The gentleſt purgatives are to be
" uſed. Manna with Nitre diſſolved in
" clear whey and ſtrained, makes a very
" proper purge at theſe times. Two
" ounces of Manna and a dram of Nitre
" is a full doſe. If Nitre ſhould diſagree
" with your ſtomach, Cream of Tartar
" may be uſed in its ſtead.

Purgatives of the gentleſt kind adviſable, during the uſe of the waters.

" After the firſt nine days uſe of the
" temperate Bath-Water and the purge
" which is to ſucceed it, you are then to
" begin with the *Douche* from this ſpring,
" and after fifteen days the water from
" the hotteſt ſpring may be uſed to all
" the parts affected, or that have been
" affected, from eight to fifteen minutes
" at a time, as you find you can well
" bear this operation, which is to be re-
" peated every day throughout the ſea-
" ſon, as a moſt ſovereign remedy to
" heal the ulcers or diſpoſe them to heal;

" but ſhould you at any time find your-
" ſelf over-heated by the *Douche*, † it
" muſt be omitted two or three days,
" and in that interval uſe the temperate
" Bath for refreſhment as before directed.

" It is to be obſerved, that when the
" ulcers are deterged, and appear in a
" good healing condition, which in a
" bad caſe probably may be two months
" or more, even with the moſt regular
" perſeverance in the method I have re-
" commended, the percuſſion of the
" *Douche* or fall of water upon the parts
" is

† I was obliged to go to Bath twice on account of a lameneſs upon my ancle, and I found by experience, that this operation quickened my pulſe and made me hotter than bathing in water of an equal degree of heat the ſame ſpace of time.

Theſe waters proved ſo efficacious after various other means had afforded me no relief, as to reſtore the uſe of my limb, when it was become quite uſeleſs and attended with great pain upon the leaſt motion, in conſequence of gouty matter falling upon the joint, after a violent injury received in a fall from my horſe many months before.

" is to be moderated, or regulated, by " interposing a piece of fine linen cloth, " or by the use of a tin pipe of a smaller " diameter, giving a much less column " of water, endeavouring to avoid throw- " ing it in a perpendicular direction up- " on the parts into the sinuses, lest the " force and power of it in that manner, " should interrupt the work of regene- " ration, or wear away the very tender " papillæ or granulations of flesh: and " here it may be necessary to inform you, " to prevent your being discouraged at " the conclusion of the season, that, tho' " every disposition for a cure should be " laid, yet the ulcers seldom cicatrize till " sometime after quitting the action of " the waters, for very obvious reasons.

How to moderate or regulate the degree of percussion of the water in pumping.

" Should it happen that extraordinary " heat, head-ach or febrile symptoms, " discoverable by the quickness of the " pulse, should seize you at any time " during the use of these waters, you " should lose 6 or 8 ounces of blood, or " more as you can bear that evacuation,

In case febrile symptoms should arise upon the use of the waters what to be done.

" and take a doſe of gentle purging phy-
" ſic, repeating it occaſionally.

The proper Regimen in the uſe of theſe waters.

" Your regimen or diet, a point ſo
" material in the cure of all diſeaſes, is
" to be attended to with the utmoſt
" ſtrictneſs and obſervance, as very con-
" ducive to the ſucceſs of the waters.
" Milk as it comes from the cow, with
" bread in a moderate quantity is proper
" for breakfaſt and ſupper; for dinner,
" good, plain ſoup or broth, with fleſh-
" meats of eaſy digeſtion, as veal, mut-
" ton, lamb, chicken, &c. boiled or
" roaſted; avoiding high ſauces, fruits
" and ſallads, or whatever is heating or
" breeds crudities.

Water boiled and ſtrained after ſtanding till cold the beſt common drink.

" If you can content yourſelf with
" water for common drink, which ſhould
" be boiled, and the clear poured off
" when cold, that is, in my opinion, a
" liquor the moſt adviſable, drinking
" only one glaſs of ſome genuine ſweet
" ſtomach wine, ſuch as Malaga or
" Frontiniac, after dinner; but if cuſ-
" tom has made wine neceſſary, and you

" cannot be ſatisfied with water alone,
" a third part of good, ſound red port
" wine mixed with it may be allowed.
" Too free an uſe of wine has proved ſo
" prejudicial to ſome of our Country-
" men, who have reſorted to Bareges, as
" to deprive them of the benefit of the
" waters in very proper caſes.

The free uſe of wine pernicious during the uſe of theſe waters.

" I moſt heartily wiſh the recovery of
" your health, and am,

Sir,

your moſt humble Servant,

CHRISTOPHER MEIGHAN. ‡

O 3 Sir

‡ Sir Chriſtopher Meighan M. D. is Knight of the Order of the Holy Ghoſt, and uſed to attend at Bareges in the Seaſons for drinking the waters, &c.

Theſe thermal Springs are at the foot of the Pyrenean Mountains towards the South, dividing France from Spain, where commodious covered Baths were built by the order of the preſent King of France, for the better accommodation of people reſorting to them.——I have reaſon to wiſh there had been the like accommodation at Bath; for when I was obliged to go thither in the autumnal ſeaſon, by being expoſed to the open air in bathing in cold weather, I ſuffered much.

Sir Chriſtopher Meighan's Letter determined this Gentleman to go to Bareges, and in his way thither through London he took the opinion of ſome eminent Surgeons there, who alſo adviſed the ſame.

In his journey he ſuffered much from ſome unexpected occurrences, and when he arrived there, was not in a condition to uſe the waters to any purpoſe; for which reaſon he was adviſed to retire to Tarbes in Gaſcony, about fifteen leagues from Bareges, and there to winter in order to return early the next ſeaſon; but in the mean time a new diſorder attacked him and carried him off; concerning which I never had a ſatisfactory account, but did hear it was ſome complaint in his bowels.

He was embalmed by Monſ. Clerac, who gave a very defective account of his dying illneſs.

Of

Of the ſingular effect of a large doſe of ſolid Opium.

A perſon who had long been ſubject to nephritic complaints and voided many ſmall ſtones, was unneceſſarily compelled to a long attendance in a Court of Judicature, upon an exceſſive hot day; in conſequence of which an immoderate effuſion of blood enſued from the urinary paſſages, and continued, with ſhort intervals, for more than ten months; defeating the moſt powerful means and bringing his life into moſt imminent danger.

In this ſtate a fever ſeized him attended with violent inceſſant purging and vomiting, having at the ſame time a return of bleeding to a much greater degree than ever before. Not a ſpoonful of any kind of nutriment would now ſtay in his ſtomach; his pulſe became

almoſt imperceptible and intermitting, his life in all appearance of but a few hours duration, and his neareſt and deareſt relations had taken their final leave of him as a dying perſon.

Under theſe circumſtances he was truly ſenſible of his approaching diſſolution, and talked with his Phyſician upon it with great compoſure of mind, who was his particular Friend, and attended him with great care, judgment and affection, to give him all the aſſiſtance in his power as long as he lived; believing he would want it but a very ſhort time; however, in this extremity he propoſed giving him a large doſe of ſolid Opium, with ſome faint hopes, if it ſtaid in his ſtomach, of proving the means of checking theſe evacuations; and four grains of this heavenly remedy, in as many pills ſoftened in the hand, were taken in a ſpoonful of ſimple cinnamon and pepper-mint water, which had the deſired effect. In leſs than an hour he was in a profound ſleep and ſlept near ſix hours without waking; then,

then, between ſleeping and waking, he took ſome nouriſhment which ſtaid in his ſtomach, and he went to ſleep again for ſome hours. Upon waking again more perfectly he aſked for nouriſhment, which alſo ſtaid in his ſtomach, and he had no tendency to vomit or purge; but then was ſenſible of great irritation from Coagula of blood at the neck of the bladder, as he had often been before, tho' not to ſo great a degree; and upon having recourſe to the former expedient of injecting milk and oil occaſionally, a vaſt quantity of coagulated blood was diſcharged, none in a recent ſtate.

From that time the ruptured veſſel or veſſels were ſo effectually cloſed, that not the leaſt appearance of blood has ſince been ſeen from thoſe parts, which is more than five years; but the patient's health ſuffered irreparably by the immenſe quantity that he had loſt.

The

The manner of performing the injection was by a catheter, having a pipe of a large ivory syringe shortened and well fixt into it, for want of a more commodious instrument.

A Letter, &c. communicated to me by Dr. M---y concerning a sleepless person who lived at Madrid.

DEAR SIR,

* * * * * *

* * * * * * *

* * * * * * *

"I began my inquiry into the extraordinary piece of History of the sleepless man here by making a visit to my acquaintance *Father Sarmiento*, a man of the first character for learning in this Country. He told me all he knew of this sleepless man, was his being

" being buried in that very Convent
" where he reſides, and that he noted at
" the time, the circumſtances of his ne-
" ver having ſlept. This was a lucky diſ-
" covery, for by having recourſe to the
" Regiſter of the Burials, which is more
" full and exact than with us, I there
" found the names of all his heirs, and
" among the reſt of his Brother-in-law,
" whom I ſoon found out by inquiring
" at another Convent; in ſhort I aſked
" this good man every queſtion I could
" think of relative to this curious matter.

" I wiſh you may not now think my
" account too minute, but I was willing
" at this diſtance to obviate ſeveral doubts,
" and to mention the life of the genera-
" lity of the Spaniards, though indeed of
" late years they have loſt much of their
" ſobriety; perhaps they do not ſleep the
" worſe for that.

" I wiſh

"I wish we could have got more "light into this affair, but when we "consider that the person, *Don Andres* "*Brizianos* died near 30 years ago, it "is well we have obtained so much.

"I have only to add that I am,

Dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

****** ******

Madrid,

December 16, 1764.

The

The Hiſtory of *Don Andres Gonzales de Brizianos.*

His employment.

This Gentleman had a very conſiderable employment in the Revenue at Madrid. He *was Cantador de Reſultas y de Juros*, Offices in which the receipt and diſburſements of the whole Royal Treaſury are examined and ſtated, and in which an account is kept of the intereſt paid of the ſums of money lent to the Kings of Spain.

His conſtitution and manner of living.

He was of a middling ſtature, neither fat nor lean, nor of an unhealthy complexion. He uſed to riſe early, drink very thin chocolate without eating, and paſs the whole morning in the buſineſs of his Office, dine, like the Spaniards, chiefly on *Soup* and *Olla* at two o' Clock, and never take any *Sieſta*. At four he had his chocolate in the ſame manner as at

at breakfaſt; and in the evening he walked a great deal in the Town, but very leiſurely.

He was ſo well known in the Coffee-Houſes, that without expreſs orders the Waiters uſed to bring him large glaſſes of iced water, of which he uſed to drink very freely in the courſe of the day, as well as of Sherbet with ice, when he went into company.

His ſupper was a ſallad and cucumbers, or other cold fruits and water; for he never drank wine, nor did he ſmoke tobacco or take ſnuff.

Subject to an Herpes and the conſequences upon drying up.

During a great many years he had a kind of Herpes, or eryſipelatous humor, on one of his legs; from which he always felt bad effects when it dried up. He obſerved that abſtaining from fleſh and living chiefly upon fiſh, in the early part of his life, conſtantly brought it out again; but this means did not ſucceed with

with him at 73, when the humor retreated, affected his ſtomach and killed him.

He was buried in the Church of the Benedictine-Convent of St. Martin at Madrid, on the 11th of February, 1736. Where he was buried.

In the twentieth year of his age he married a girl of thirteen, at which age the ſex are marriageable in Spain and Portugal: and it is remarkable at that time of his life he took no ſleep.

His Wife's Brother *Don Antonio Rodrigues Gallo*, an old Gentleman of great reputation, mentioned before, whoſe veracity was not to be queſtioned, from whom I had theſe particulars, does not know whether he ſlept in the former part of his life; he only is poſitive that his Brother-in-law never mentioned in his hearing, this total privation of ſleep,

as

as having begun at any particular period of his life, or that he apprehended it was cauſed by any fit of illneſs.

He ſometimes dozed for a very ſhort ſpace of time not properly, to be called ſleeping.

The utmoſt that he dozed was one quarter of an hour in the twenty-four, which could not properly be called ſleep; for even in thoſe moments he would readily anſwer whatever queſtions were aſked him.

His wife, who was as weak and ſickly as he was robuſt and healthy, often uſed to ſay, that at no time ſhe had ever found him ſleeping, and yet he never complained of this wakefulneſs as a misfortune.

His father, mother, and children all good ſleepers.

He was chearful in his family; but ſeldom ſat down in his own houſe. In his dying illneſs it was thought he ſlept a little. It is remarkable that his father and mother, the former of whom was extremely lean, and his children *Don Franciſco*

Franciſco and Donna Maria, who both ſurvived him, but ſince dead, were all good ſleepers.

The above facts are confirmed by the teſtimony of ſome other perſons of good credit ſtill living, who knew and frequently viſited him. *

P *A Copy*

* *The Reverend Father Benedict Feijoo*, a man of great learning and character, in his *Theatrum criticum univerſale*, ſays,

" In regard to living without ſleep, I have received " an account from a perſon of conſequence at Court, " that *Don Andres Gonzales Brizianos Contador de Juros*, " a native of *Madrid*, who preſerved himſelf in good " health till between 70 and 80 years of age, either did " not ſleep at all, or very little, during his whole life, " only when he was advanced in years, he uſed to doze " for a very ſhort ſpace of time; but even this ſmall de- " gree of reſt, approached nearer to wakefulneſs than " ſleep, ſince he could hear every word that was ſpoken " to him in a low tone of voice."

An account ſupporting the authenticity of the former narrative taken from Feijoo's Theatrum criticum univerſale.

The author adds. " The ſame noble perſon aſſured " me, that this fact was known to the whole court at " Madrid.

A Copy of my good Friend Doctor Monsey's Letter, giving a narrative of a very extraordinary case from his own observation.

St. James's,

April the 20th, 1765.

My dear Friend,

" I do not recollect what I said of my-
" self in my last letter, which you say
" gave you concern; for indeed I have
" lately been extremely well compared
" with what I have suffered, and now
" think myself happy; tho' I have still,
" now and then, sensations, which I
" know not how to describe or account
" for, yet I do not suffer them to break
" in and disturb the general state of my
" health either of body or mind; but I
" have a notion, that one day or other I
" shall

" ſhall be ſuddenly knocked down, as " with a cannon ball, or fly in pieces " like a bomb-ſhell. Don't you imagine " that I am repining at this imaginary " cataſtrophe, I rather am pleaſed with " the hope of it; it is much better than " to be carried off with a ſtinking fever, " a drivelling palſy, or a gloomy melan- " choly nervous affection of any kind: " and now I talk of nerves and nervous " affections, I'll give you an hiſtory as " conciſely as I can, of an aſtoniſhing " caſe, that lately came to my know- " ledge and under my own notice; which " I ſhall leave to the Archbiſhop to " chriſten, and begin my narration.

" A Gentleman of the Law in Ser- " jeant's-Inn, aged about 50, and of a " ſanguine complexion, was ſeized about " 10 years ago with a paralytic affection " on his left arm, after which he had " ſevere pain on the ſecond joint of his " thumb, from thence it runs up to the " middle of the cubit, and ſo on to the

" middle of the humerus, gradually in-
" creaſing to an excruciating degree, and
" there it ſtops.

" No means has been able to remove
" it effectually, but a very odd one gives
" temporary relief, which is tapping him
" very gently juſt at the junction of the
" laſt vertebra of the neck with the firſt
" of the back. This is done almoſt in-
" ceſſantly night and day, having a ſuc-
" ceſſion of ſervants for this purpoſe,
" and by this means he ſcarce ever ſleeps.

" I ſaw him firſt on Tueſday laſt; he
" diſmiſſed the tapper when I went in
" and called his wife to do the office,
" who ſat beating him in this manner
" all the time I was with him, which
" was more than an hour.

" At intervals he was ſeized with the
" moſt violent ſpaſms in the jaws and
" borborygmi, and once whilſt I was
" with him with the moſt unaccountable
" diſorder

" diſorder upon the muſcles of the La-
" rynx, I ſuppoſe, for he made ſuch a
" horrid, ſonorous, inarticulate jabber-
" ing as I never heard, and coming, on a
" ſudden and unexpected, it affrightened
" me.

" I did but juſt touch his thumb, and
" it gave him exquiſite pain, ſays he, a
" ſtraw drawn over it is a dagger; and
" yet once upon my touching it pretty
" hard it took off the pain, as did more
" than once ſcratching his eye-brow
" hard.

" When the ſpaſm affects his throat,
" and he belches forth wind, he farts
" with ſuch vehemence and ſmartneſs,
" and with ſuch an acute noiſe, as I know
" not how to deſcribe it to you; but it
" ſeems to me ſomething like the explo-
" ſion of a boy's pop-gun.

" Were I to enumerate all the oddi-
" ties I obſerved at this viſit, I ſhould
" tire you and myſelf too.

" He once in his agony ſent for a Sur-
" geon to cut off his arm. †

" He has conſulted a great number of
" Phyſicians and Surgeons of the greateſt
" eminence, without finding the leaſt re-
" lief from any of them; *Doctor Frewin*
" ſent him to Bath.

" He has lately been under the care
" of *Dominicetti the Venetian Doctor*,
" who is come over to cure every body
" of all diſtempers by ſweating; but after
" three months diſcipline, and immode-
" rately ſweated, with dry and wet fu-
" migations, frictions, &c. *Nihili omnia.*

" Curioſity led me to inquire into theſe
" ſtrange and ſurpriſing phœnomena.

" He begged of me to try ſomething,
" but I had no courage, ſpirit or hopes.
" He

† In a letter which I lately received from the Doctor, he ſays, that laſt ſummer a Surgeon divided the two branches of nerves belonging to the thumb, but without benefit.

" He has taken all the nervous tribe " of medicines over and over again; " however, not to appear inhuman to ſo " wretched a being, after telling him I " knew not what would or would not " do him good, as ſoon as I returned " home I ſent him a bottle of Rattle- " Snake Wine to take a glaſs of fre- " quently.

" Upon my taking my leave of him, " he told me he had not cloſed his eyes " for eight nights ſucceſſively.

" Laſt night, the third ſince I viſited " him, as I was ſitting by my fireſide, " in walked my patient to my great ſur- " prize, which he obſerving; Sir! ſays " he, you cannot be ſo much amazed as " I am, nor half ſo much pleaſed; I am " come to thank you, and if not crimi- " minal, to worſhip you.

" Well Sir, ſaid I, but I thought you " could not bear a coach nor a chair; I " cannot anſwered he, I came walking

" and have left my friends and neighbours
" in the greateſt aſtoniſhment. Sir!
" this change ſurely cannot proceed from
" my medicine, it ſeems to me almoſt
" impoſſible. Sir! 'tis true for all that
" replied he, and I have not had one
" tap all this whole day, and am in a
" manner free from pain. Sir! ſaid I
" don't halloo, we are not yet out of
" the wood. Indeed Sir, ſays he I am
" at preſent, but God knows how ſoon
" I may be in again. When your ſur-
" priſe is over and your mind ſettled
" after your walk I'll feel your pulſe; I
" did ſo, and from a quick and irregular
" one, which I obſerved when I viſited
" him at his own houſe, I found it regu-
" lar, even and ſtrong enough. This
" began to demoliſh my infidelity, and
" to give me ſome opinion of my Rattle-
" Snake Wine.

" After ſitting an hour with me free
" from pain, and without his man pat-
" ting him once, I aſked him to go
" home in a chair. Sir, ſays he, a chair
" murders

" murders me, unleſs the fellows would
" carry their poles ſhort, and give me
" no ſwing or dancing, and that they
" will not do; ſo away he went on foot
" in great ſpirits.

" I called upon him the day after this
" dialogue, and he told me he walked
" from my apartment at Lord Godol-
" phin's home with great eaſe, where he
" met an aſſembly of friends, expecting
" his return, wondering at what they
" had heard and then ſaw.

" He told me he believed his night
" was not quite ſo good as it might have
" been, had not his friends kept him up
" too late to rejoice with him on this
" happy event; yet this day he ſaid he
" had found himſelf ſtronger than uſual,
" and had been at Lincoln's-Inn-Hall
" to preſent a petition to my Lord Chan-
" cellor: however, notwithſtanding theſe
" halcyon-days, this fair ſun-ſhine of
" comfortable hope, I am afraid clouds
" and ſtorms will ariſe and make this poor

" Gentleman

" Gentleman again the moſt miſerable
" of Beings.

" What happens farther you ſhall
" know; and if you will now tell me
" where the cauſe of this diſorder lies,
" *Eris mihi magnus Apollo.*

" I long to ſee you and talk with you
" about many things; for believe me
" ever

Yours very affectionately

M. MONSEY.

The Doctor's Problem is too hard for me to ſolve; but we have many inſtances, both ancient and modern, where different parts of the Encephalon being affected, have produced diſeaſes accompanied with ſymptoms not declarative of their nature nor the ſources from whence they ſprung, or to be accounted for by thoſe of the greateſt penetration and diſcernment

cernment, ſo as to characterize them by ſpecific and determinate appellations.

We have pertinent and recent inſtances in this kingdom, one in the caſe of of a nobleman which was attended with a variety of ſymptoms denominated nervous, whoſe greateſt complaint was in his ſtomach, proceeding from no other evident cauſe diſcovered after his death, by an accurate diſſection, than a ſtone lodged in the Pineal Gland.

Another great Perſonage after labouring ſome years under a great variety alſo of nervous ſymptoms complained particularly of a violent pain of his arm, beginning at his fingers ends, frequently returning and gradually aſcending, and when advanced as far as where the Deltoid Muſcle is inſerted into the bone, then became ſo excruciating as to make him wiſh, with great earneſtneſs, to have his limb taken off.

This

This Nobleman died under paralytic ſymptoms, expiring in convulſions.

Upon opening his head two ſmall encyſted tumors were found upon his brain on the oppoſite ſide to the affected limb; and no where elſe any thing preternatural.

Theſe accounts I was favoured with from the Surgeons concerned in opening the bodies.

A few years ago I was deſired to open the body of a young Gentleman of a noble family, who had an anomalous fever attended with nervous ſymptoms, which perplexed the judgment of an old and experienced Phyſician of great ſagacity, who could not characterize it by any particular name to his own ſatisfaction, as he often told me during his attendance; but I never ſaw the patient in his life-time.

In

In this caſe, upon a very careful and attentive diſſection, we diſcovered nothing amiſs, only a turgeſcence of the veſſels running upon the plicatures of the Pia Mater, and a conſiderable quantity of a lymphatic fluid in the Ventricles of the Brain.

In the year 1760, I viſited a perſon in a kind of fever, that I knew not what claſs to place it under, attended with a ſhaking of the head and a kind of Emproſthotonos; and he told me had been ſubject to theſe diſorders, in a leſs degree for ſeveral years, and ſometimes to be vertiginous and fall down deprived of his ſenſes for a ſhort duration, and that he was never entirely free from a pain of his head. Upon any briſk exerciſe he uſed to become giddy, which ſymptom went off immediately upon reſting himſelf.

In this diſeaſe he ſuffered inexpreſſibly for ſome months, and then died in the greateſt agonies and ſtrong convulſions.

Upon

Upon opening his head ſeveral oſſeous points were found riſing conſiderably above the internal ſurface of the ſcull, partly upon the right *Os parietale* and partly upon the adjoining *Os Occipitis*, which irritated the *Dura Mater*; and this Membrane was in an inflamed ſtate, beginning to mortify.

To this purpoſe read the illuſtrious Van Swieten's Commentaries upon Boerhaave's Aphoriſms, § 1075. *

When

* *Corn. Stalpart Vander Wiel* mentions the caſe of a ſtone, which was found in the *Pineal Gland* of a woman who was diſſected in his Brother's Anatomical Theatre at the *Hague*. Vid Ob. 12 Tom. 1.

In the Philoſophical Tranſactions for the year, 1686, is recorded a memorable caſe of this nature, in a very circumſtantial manner, in reſpect to the ſymptoms it produced; and for the ſingularity of it, it was taken into the *Acta Eruditorum publicata Liſſiæ*, Anno 1688.

Kerckringius gives an account of a ſtone like a filbert, that was found in the right Ventricle of the Brain, with a figure of it; deſcribing the ſymptoms which attended the

When Doctor Monſey informed the Gentleman who is the ſubject of this letter, that it was Rattle-Snake Wine he had given him, he ſent directly to a Friend in the Weſt-Indies, where it is drank as the higheſt Cordial, deſiring he would ſend him a large quantity, and alſo ſome

the caſe, and the ſtate the Brain appeared in upon diſſection.

Vid. Schenkii Obſervationem in Dolore Capitis ex Lapidibus in Cerebro repertis.

Hildanus and many other eminent and authentic Obſervators, which may be conſulted, mention ſtoney concretions, &c. having been found in the brain, &c. with the ſymptoms attending ſuch caſes.

Bonetus, in his Anatomia Practica, has collected many caſes to this purpoſe; and Lib. 1. de Capitis Affectibus in his Medicina Septentrionalis Collatitia is well worth attentive peruſal on this account.

Stoney concretions have been obſerved in almoſt every part of the body, particularly in the glandular parts; in many I have found them, as in the glands of the breaſt, the maxillary, ſublingual, &c.

ſome Rattle-Snakes, where they are found in great plenty: And before this occurrence, having had the following relation tranſmitted to him from thence, and well authenticated, by his friend, he conceived the greater hopes and expectations of the efficacy of this medicine, as previous to his own moſt dreadful and unprecedented diſorder, he had been ſubject to a violent cutaneous diſeaſe, ſomething of a leprous nature; and gave the Doctor the following hiſtory, which he communicated to me by letter.

A very wealthy old Gentleman in that Country, had long been afflicted with the Leproſy to an high degree, which was deemed incurable by his Phyſicians.

Apparently in a dying ſtate he made his will, and left a large legacy to a female ſervant, who had lived with him many years.

This circumſtance being known to her, ſhe and her lover, by the inſtigation of

of the devil, ſtudied and contrived how to make away with him, in ſuch a manner as to raiſe the leaſt ſuſpicion of their wickedneſs. They put the heads of Rattle-Snakes into wine and gave him it to drink, thinking it would prove an infallible poiſon, but as he grew better upon taking it, they, happily for him, falſely concluded they had not made it ſtrong enough, then made it ſtronger; and by drinking this intended poiſon he was reſtored to perfect health.

A Gentleman cured of the Leproſy by what was intended to poiſon him.

Compunction of conſcience put this unfaithful and wicked ſervant upon falling on her knees before her maſter, imploring his mercy, and in tears confeſſing her atrocious crime. He not only forgave her, but gave her a ſum of money, ordering her to depart his houſe directly and never ſee him more. *

Q As

* *Galen*, *Aretæus*, and other of the Ancients recommended eating vipers, ſometimes dreſt like eels, in the *Elephantiaſis*.——*Dampier* ſays, that the natives of *Tonquin* in the *Eaſt-Indies* treat their friends, with Arrack,

in

Account of a puncture thro' the ſcull attended with very ſingular circumſtances

As I paſſed through Haleſworth in my way into Norfolk, on June the 6th 1773, Mrs. Nurſey a tradeſman's wife ſtopped me in the ſtreet and aſked my opinion about her child's caſe in which tho' ſhe deſcribed it very imperfectly, I apprehended there was ſome great latent miſchief; conſequently, as the Surgeon who lived in the town was not at home, for us to ſee the child together, I only moſt earneſtly deſired the mother to have her child's head very ſtrictly examined as ſoon as poſſible by him, and if ſhe thought

in which ſnakes and ſcorpions have been infuſed, eſteeming it not only a great cordial; but alſo an efficacious remedy in the Leproſy, and an antidote againſt poiſon.

When *Cato* marched *Pompey's* ſhattered army through *Africa*, he encouraged the intimidated ſoldiers to quench their thirſt at a ſpring without fear, tho' they ſaw the water full of ſerpents, as *Lucan* relates in his *Pharſalia*, Lib. IX.

Noxia ſerpentum eſt admiſto ſanguine peſtis,
Morſu virus habent & fatum dente minantur.
Pocula morte carent - - - - -

thought proper, for her farther ſatisfaction, to have the Phyſician of the place preſent, who was well acquainted with Surgery.

Upon this occaſion I received the following letter from the Surgeon, a judicious man in his profeſſion, authenticated by the Phyſician.

Haleſworth, *July* the 26th, 1773.

DEAR SIR,

"I ſend you the following very ſingular caſe, which we had not an opportunity of examining together, when Mrs. Nurſey aſked your opinion about it, thinking it may not be altogether unworthy a place in your intended Collection, which you are about favouring the public with.

"On May the 16th, 1773, I was called to a child of Mr. Nurſey's about

" four years old, when ſhe was lately
" recovered of a fever which terminated
" by an abſceſs in the axilla. She had
" alſo at times been ſubject to worms;
" had now febrile ſymptoms, and com-
" plained of ſickneſs and pain in her
" bowels, which I apprehended pro-
" ceeded from worms and treated her
" accordingly, by which means one more
" was brought away.

" On the 30th ſhe made great com-
" plaint of her head and was drowſy,
" with a quick low pulſe.

" Bliſtering was propoſed, but rejec-
" ted by the too timorous indulgent
" mother, nor could the child now be
" prevailed upon to take any kind of
medicine, except now and then a purge.

" On the third of June her mother
" informed me there was a conſiderable
" diſcharge from a very ſmall orifice
" over the right eye, but then ſhe re-
" fuſed to have it examined; ſhe recol-
" lected

" lected however, that more than a " month before, the child came crying " to her with a pair of ſmall ſharp poin- " ted ſciſſars in her hand, and that ſhe " obſerved a little ſpot of blood upon " the part whence the diſcharge now " proceeded; but it appeared ſo trifling " as to be diſregarded.

" The diſcharge now ſeemed purely " lymphatic, and was daily increaſing ſo " as to wet ſeveral handkerchiefs in a " day and night; but upon this diſ- " charge the child became more lively.

" June the ſeventh, the day after your " converſation with Mrs. Nurſey, Dr. " Urban was called in, when ſhe con- " ſented to have the part examined; and " we found a very ſmall orifice or punc- " ture like the bite of a leech, about an " inch above the arch of the orbit of " the eye, towards the external canthus.

" In our examination the child lay in " an horizontal poſture on her mother's

" lap; the probe paſſed, without the " leaſt reſiſtence, directly forwards thro' " the ſcalp and cranium alſo more than " two inches, and without doubt might " have been paſſed farther, had we not " been fearful of injuring the parts.

" With the Doctor's approbation I " now removed a ſmall portion of the " ſcalp round the orifice to facilitate the " diſcharge, &c. and we then ſaw the " aperture through the cranium. The " wound was dreſſed in an eaſy manner, " uſing a very ſlight bandage, and the " purging medicine was repeated more " frequently, with a view of making a " diverſion by the bowels, in order to " leſſen the diſcharge from the Ence- " phalon, &c. This diſcharge flowed " conſtantly and uniformly at the rate " of a dram or more every five minutes " into a ſilver ſpoon; it taſted like the " tears and was as tranſparent. A ſpoon- " ful of this fluid evaporated over a " candle did not inſpiſſate like lymph, " with heat, nor leave any reſiduum, ex- " cept

" cept a very ſmall ſaline ſubſtance in " the ſpoon. The effuſion continued in " this quantity for ſeveral days, which " was at the rate of 36 ounces in 24 " hours; the purging medicine was often " repeated till the 15th, when the diſ- " charge ſeemed quite ſtopped, and the " child apparently, tho' very weak, in a " ſtate of recovery; and then the pur- " ging medicine was repeated at longer " intervals.

" Now the mother of the child ac- " quainted us with what ſhe ſhould by " no means have concealed; that on " Sunday May the 9th, a watery fluid " perfectly tranſparent, was firſt obſerved " to come trickling from above the eye- " brow down the ſide of the cheek; that " on Wedneſday the 12th, the child lay " in a ſtupid, lethargic ſtate apparently " dying; that next day at three or four " o' clock in the morning a ſtream of " tranſparent water ſpurted out ſeveral " inches high, from the ſpot thought to " have been wounded with the point of

" the ſciſſars; and this little jet d' eau,
" or ſtream of water, ſupported the arch
" it firſt formed for about 10 minutes,
" and almoſt immediately after this the
" child perfectly awaked from its ſleepi-
" neſs and ſtupor. It was alſo obſerved
" by the mother and others then preſent,
" that this fluid changed the color of
" a purple ſilk handkerchief to a bright
" red.

" On the 24th our patient was ſo well
" as to ride on horſeback with her father;
" but in the evening of that day, ſhe
" complained again of her head, and had
" ſome tranſient convulſive motions.

" Next morning I viſited her, ſhe
" then appeared briſk and lively, with-
" out any ſpaſmodic affections, and took
" her uſual doſe of the laxative.

" At five or ſix in the evening of this
" day, I was ſent for in great haſte, as
" thoſe about the child thought her ac-
" tually dying; I found her indeed de-
" prived

" prived of all ſenſe and voluntary mo-
" tion and in ſtrong convulſions, in
" which the muſcles of the eyes, face,
" arms, and hands were principally af-
" fected; and in this dreadful ſtate I was
" informed ſhe had been ever ſince three
" in the afternoon.

" I inſtantly diſpatched a meſſenger
" for the Doctor, requeſting his imme-
" diate attendance, he came accordingly
" and ordered the child to be bled di-
" rectly.

" Theſe moſt alarming and threatening
" ſymptoms ſtill continuing, we then
" urged in the ſtrongeſt terms we could
" to the parents, &c. enforced by the
" concurrent opinion of another Surgeon
" now called in, to have a perforation
" made in the ſcull forthwith, as the
" only rational means left, in our unani-
" mous opinion, to preſerve the child's
" life, tho' that carried but little proba-
" bility of ſucceſs. This operation was
" objected to at firſt, particularly by the
" mother,

" mother, but ſoon complied with and
" then immediately performed, inclu-
" ding the puncture of the cranium,
" within the crown of the trephine; †
" but no diſcharge of the aqueous kind
" followed the operation. The Dura
" Mater did not appear diſcoloured; but
" in the agonizing cries of the pati-
" ent it aroſe with great force, and was
" at leaſt propelled one third of a ſphere
" through the perforation. In this ſtate
" we made an inciſion with a lancet
" through that membrane, but no other
" diſcharge enſued than a little blood,
" which made us the more deſpair of
" ſucceſs, eſpecially as the ſymptoms
" continued ſo violent, that in ſhort we
" all thought our patient abſolutely ex-
" piring: however, under theſe dreadful
" circumſtances a ſtimulating clyſter was
" given, which procured two ſtools in
" about

† Upon an attentive examination of the circular piece of the ſcull after the removal of it, the orifice made with the ſciſſars was found entirely cloſed, with a very thin diaphanous oſſification.

" about an hour, upon which the alar-
" ming ſymptoms began to remit and
" the child became ſenſible; in a few
" hours the convulſions, in a great mea-
" ſure went off; then ſhe called for
" ſmall-beer and paſſed a tolerable night.

" Twenty-Sixth the child continued
" ſenſible, yet had ſeveral ſlight returns
" of convulſions and a reſtleſs night.
" ſhe could not be prevailed upon to
" take any medicines, but the injection
" was repeated with a good effect.

" Twenty-Seventh continued reſtleſs
" and ſomewhat confuſed till the even-
" ing; about ſeven or eight o'clock ſhe
" fell aſleep, ſlept comfortably three or
" four hours, awaked refreſhed and
" ſeemed better in every reſpect.

" Twenty-Eighth an appearance of
" digeſtion in the wound, no aqueous
" diſcharge

" diſcharge from the aperture, no new " threatning ſymptoms, ſhe ſlept quietly " in the night, but awaked in ſome con- " fuſion which ſoon went off.

" Twenty-ninth a good appearance in " the wound; ſymptoms favourable; " bowels kept in proper order with the " laxative.

" Till July the 9th all things went " on favourably, when near a tea-cup " full of purulent matter was diſcharged " through the aperture, without any re- " markable ſymptoms preceding this " diſcharge.

" On the 12th there appeared a very " great protruſion of the Dura Mater, " &c. through the aperture, as you have " deſcribed in your Obſervations, which " was effectually ſuppreſſed by the per- " forated plate of lead you there recom- " mend,

" mend, without any disagreeable con-
" sequence from the use of it. This pro-
" trusion we found was much increased
" by the violent efforts the child made
" sometimes in crying, at the time of
" dressing.

" At the time of writing this letter
" the child enjoys its senses perfectly,
" appears in good health and the wound
" in a good condition.

" I have endeavoured with Doctor
" D' Urban's assistance, to give you as
" clear a description of this very extra-
" ordinary case as I possibly could, and I
" hope the history as well as the treat-
" ment of it will meet with your appro-
" bation. I am with the greatest respect
" and esteem,

Sir,

your most obliged

humble Servant

JOHN REVANS.

The hiſtory which Mr. Revans has given of Mr. Nurſey's child's caſe correſponds with my minutes and obſervations, from June the 7th to July the 26th, 1773.

J. D' URBAN M. D.

On July the 30th, I viſited the child with Doctor D' Urban and Mr. Revans, and the circumſtances of the caſe were confirmed to me by Mrs. Nurſey and others, whom I interrogated particularly concerning it. I found the child perfect in its ſenſes, apparently in good health and very chearful. The wound had a good aſpect, the riſing of the exfoliation of the bone round the perforation, made bare upon ſcalping, was as thin as the fineſt ſcale of a fiſh, and ſo tranſparent as we could ſee the granulations of fleſh through it, riſing to throw it off. I have alſo carefully examined the piece of bone taken out upon trepanning, and find the hole made with the ſciſſars cloſed with the oſſification as has been deſcribed.

The

The following Experiments and Remarks attentively made, relate to the Caſe of Fragility, Flexibility, and Diſſolution of the Bones which ſucceeded each other therein, as mentioned in my Chirurgical Obſervations, Edit. II.

Six pieces of equal dimenſions were ſawed tranſverſely out of the ſhank-bone of an ox, and ſuſpended by threads in phials about half full of the following Menſtruums; which were conſtantly kept in a lamp-furnace for ſeveral days, in a degree of heat equal to that of human blood. 1. Was water ſtrongly acidulated with ſpirit. vitrioli. 2. Water ſo impregnated with ſpirit. ſal. marin. 3. Water with cauſt. commun. fort. diſſolved in it. 4. Water mixt with one third of putrid. human blood. 5. Lime-Water. 6. Common vinegar.

The

The reſult of theſe Experiments was, a crumbling down of the bone in the mixture with the ſpirit. vitrioli. Almoſt a total ſolution of the piece in the water with the ſpirit. ſal. marin. The menſtruum with the cauſt. commun. fort. made no ſolution of the boney ſubſtance, but acted upon the vaſcular, or whatever connects the oſſeous particles together; for the piece of bone macerated in this mixture, became ſo friable, as to ſeparate with little force between the finger and thumb. The lime-water produced no viſible effect; nor did the mixture with the putrid blood make any impreſſion upon the bone; and the vinegar only ſoftened the ſurface of it a little. *

In proportion as the acid ſpirits acted upon the bones, an addition of them was made to the water, which reinforcement was intended to preſerve the original ſtrength of the menſtruum.

The

* It may probably be more ſatisfactory to any of the profeſſion who chuſe to make ſimilar or other experiments of inveſtigation, to take recent pieces of the thigh or leg bone of an human ſubject.

The offific matter, or what gives ſolidity and conſtitutes bone, is of a calcarious, alcaline earthy nature; and the ſolution of it in the menſtruum with the ſpirit ſal. marin. had nearly the taſte of ſea-ſalt.

We muſt indeed ſtill be at a loſs to account ſatisfactorily for the cauſe of Fragility, Emollition, and Diſſolution of the bones in a living body; for it is not to be imagined that any known acid or alkali can be ſo predominant in the humors, as to produce ſuch extraordinary effects as have been obſerved in the caſe under conſideration; nor had putrefaction any ſhare therein.

I taſted and chewed ſome of the diſſolved ſubſtance of the thigh-bone; it was ſoft upon the palate like marrow, inoffenſive and inſipid, without any acid or alkaline taſte; neither of which qualities were diſcovered by other Experiments.

As there is a conſtant waſte and ſupply of the parts of an animal body in health, we may infer, that if through ſome dyſcraſy or vitiated ſtate of the fluids, defect of the nutritious veſſels, or want of energy in the ſolids, the appoſition of boney particles does not balance the waſte, the bones will conſequently become ſoft and flexible, as they have membranous and vaſcular compages for their baſis.

However, after all, this is but of little uſe in leading us to the grand point, curing the diſeaſe.

Theſe queſtions naturally ariſe from the premiſes. What obſtructs the appoſition and coheſion of the elementary particles, which give firmneſs and ſtability to the bones or perverts them? What vitiated ſtate, or combination of animal juices, under any ſpecification, will produce ſuch a diſſolvent? This abſtruſe matter may prove incomprehenſible, and

theſe

theſe problems may ever be too difficult for the moſt ſagacious and accurate inveſtigators to ſolve; yet could the characteriſtic ſymptoms of this diſeaſe be early diſcovered, they might indeed conduct us to ſome rational means both internal and external, proving efficacious in its incipient ſtate to prevent the progreſs and cure it; but caſes of this nature are ſo rare, that they do not give the moſt attentive and curious obſerver opportunities of ſettling criterions to be relied on.

The Pariſian Caſe of Peter Supiot's wife, in ſome circumſtances, appears to be the moſt extraordinary of this nature, which we have in the Records of Phyſic, and deſerves a conſiderate reading.

This very memorable Caſe was accurately drawn up, ſoon after the patient's

death, in the year 1752, by Monſ. Morand, M. D. and Doctor Hoſty, who was then Phyſician to our Ambaſſador at the French Court, by the expreſs deſire of the Preſident of the Faculty of Phyſic at Paris and publiſhed directly by that authority. Immediately after the publication, it was ſent me by a Friend, with the original Engraving of the patient's aſtoniſhing figure annexed.

It was obſervable in this patient's caſe, that her urine had a very ſtrong, diſagreeable, alkaline ſmell, in which was frequently found a great ſediment of a white, cretaccous, gypſeous nature, which, when dried and mixt with mineral or vegetable acids, raiſed a fermentation.

After having voided this matter with her urine, it was particularly remarked, that

that her ſaliva ſpotted and ſtained the cloths like mercurial ointment, with ſuch an appearance alſo in conſequence of profuſe ſweats, upon the linen next her body, which could not be waſhed out with ſope, and the nurſes were ſenſible of the acrimony of this perſpirable matter, by the effect the waſh had upon their hands.

An

Monro's Oſteology.——Cheſelden's and Albinus's Oſteography.—Neſbitt's and Kerckringius's Oſteogeny —And Monſ. Courtial's Obſervat. Anatom. ſur les Os, are capital Books in reſpect to the Bones.

An Explanation of the following PLATE, *which illneſs prevented my publiſhing formerly.*

FIGURE 1.

Relates to the Deſcription of Tumors on the Heads of new born Children, mentioned in my Treatiſe on Wounds, Page 323.

A. A. A. A. The elliptical Ridge formed by the increaſed Thickneſs of the Pericranium over the right Parietal Bone, which was the Boundary of the Tumor; and under that Membrane the extravaſated Blood was contained.

B. B. A portion of the Scalp removed perpendicularly as far as the Ridge, ſhewing the Fiſſure C.

FIGURE. 2.

Appertains to the Caſe at Page 335 in the ſame Treatiſe.

A. A. The Os Hyoides drawn up by the action of the Muſcles.

B. B. The Courſe of the Wound.

C. C. The Thyroid Cartilage.

D. D. The Ligatures including the Os Hyoides and paſſing through the Edge of the Thyroid Cartilage, &c. with that in the middle over the Epiglottis a.

E. The Trachea.

F. The Œſophagus.

*** Theſe Engravings were accurately made from the parts which I have in my poſſeſſion.

FINIS.

Plate.IV.

Fig. 1.

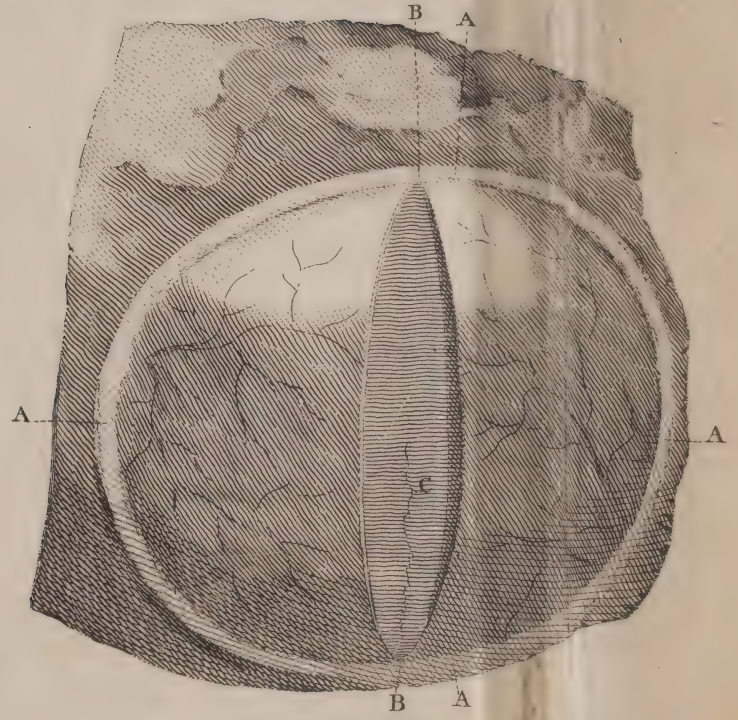
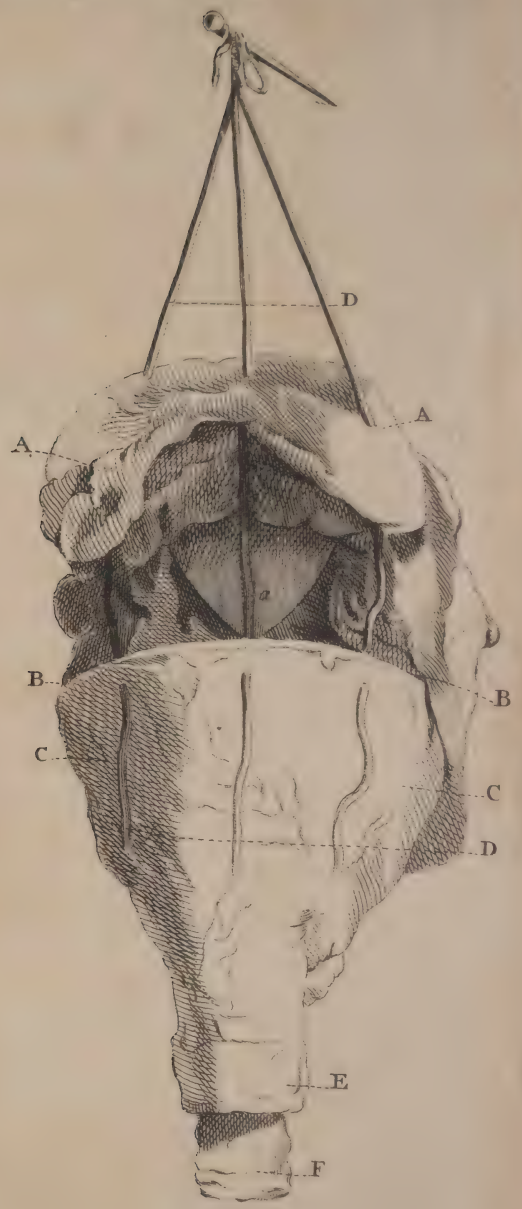
Fig. 2.